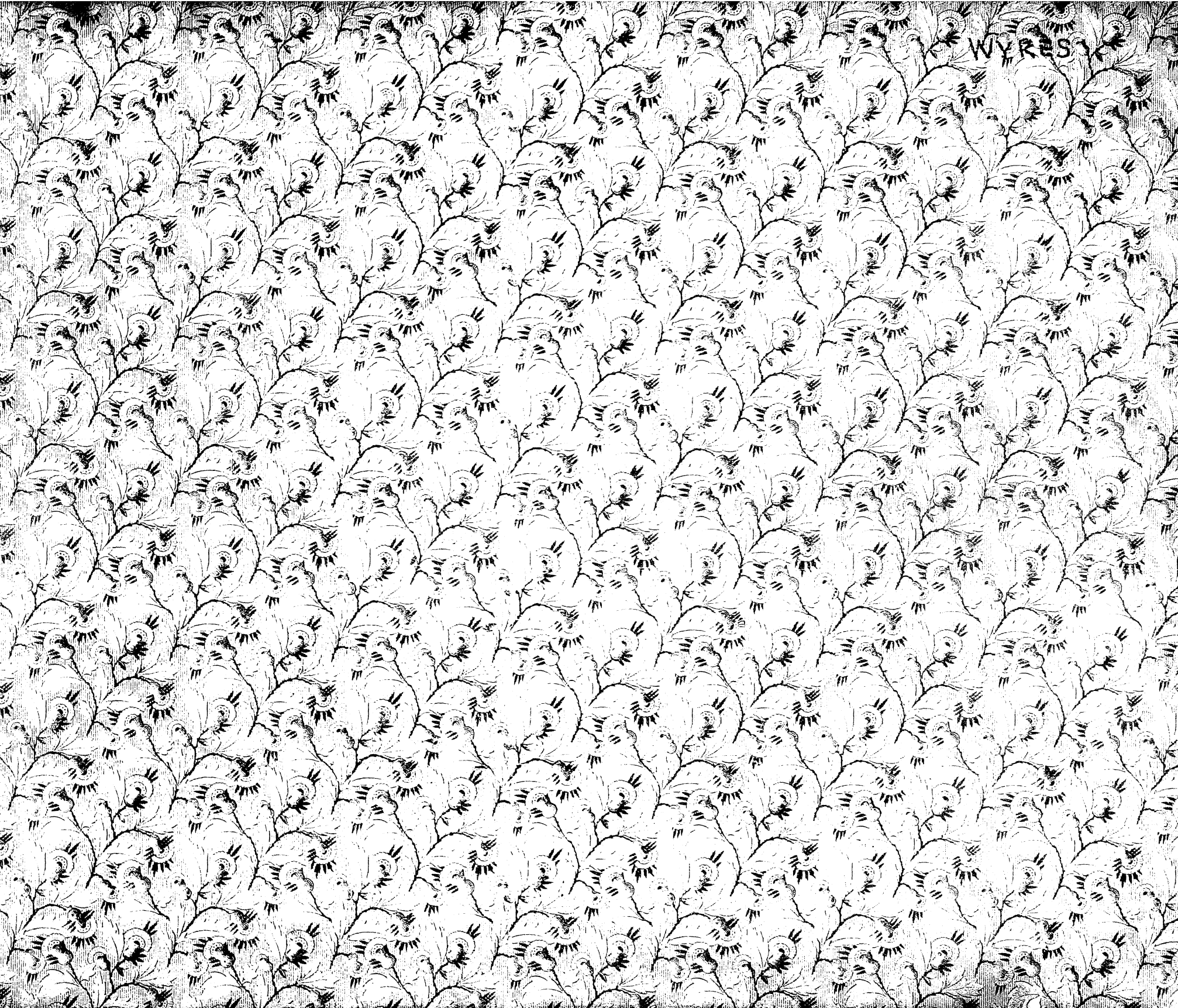


BUILDERS
OF
GREATER GRAND RAPIDS
IN
BIOGRAPHICAL CARICATURE





WYRES

BUILDERS *of* GREATER
GRAND RAPIDS

IN
BIOGRAPHICAL CARICATURE



By CARTOONISTS OF GRAND RAPIDS

===== F O R E W O R D =====

OVER thirty years ago this city achieved leadership in the furniture industry of the world and still maintains that position. Through that attainment there was established a Greater Grand Rapids. But its progress did not cease since the city became the most famous furniture center in the world there has been a growth in other lines of activity that have been equally marvelous.

Furniture men built a solid foundation but on that base there has been erected since a completed structure, fully as wonderful and calling for effort and toil even more herculean. It is the result of this recent labor, this second and larger building, that is meant by Greater Grand Rapids. Furniture is the city's greatest product, but it excels in several other industrial lines. It now has over five hundred manufacturing institutions of which only about fifty are devoted to furniture making.

Effort is made on the following pages to depict the lives and characteristics of men who have taken an active part in this work of making a Greater Grand Rapids. Circumstances do not permit that everyone entitled to recognition should be represented here, but those who are make the volume truly representative.

The men presented are not pictured from their own perspective nor yet from that of an intimate too close for proper propotion. Rather are they shown as they appear to commentators on public things and public men—"devils of the ink pots"—the newspaper cartoonists of Grand Rapids.

Whatever of permanence is contained in their work here is cheerfully donated to the public records of the happiest city in the world. Appreciation of courtesy and assistance is acknowledged to the photographers—Noble, Fryett, Brubaker and Woodard. The Art Work in this book has been executed under the supervision of Grand Rapids' own Cartoonist, Lew W. Tower.

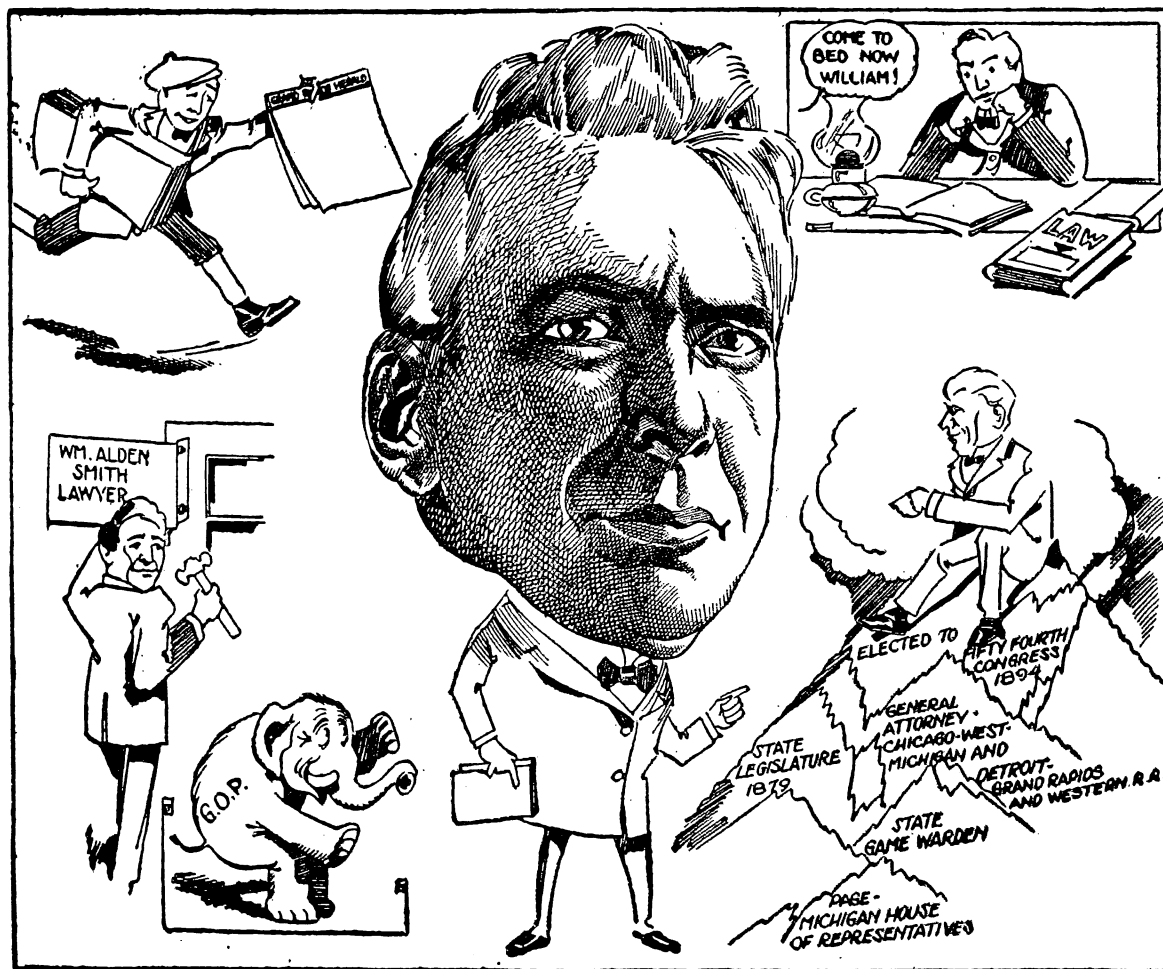


William Alden Smith

United States Senator William Alden Smith, because of a remarkable memory for names and faces, is said to have the largest acquaintance of any man in Michigan. He ought to be, and probably is the most widely known man in the state. From a newsboy he has risen to an influential position in the highest lawmaking body in America but his elevation has in no way weakened the intimate position he has always held in his home community.

Dowagiac, Cass county, was Senator Smith's birthplace. The date May 12, 1859. His first business connection was with the Western Union Telegraph company here in the capacity of messenger boy. While still a youth he was appointed page of the house of representatives at Lansing by Ex-Governor Rich, then speaker of the house. It was there that his ambition to become a lawyer was developed. After much hard work he completed his law education and was admitted to the bar in 1882. He became a highly successful railroad attorney and in 1894 was elected to congress.

He was returned six times as a congressman after his first term expired and his life since has brought greater honors and achievements. In addition to his public office he is connected with many commercial and civic enterprises in this city.

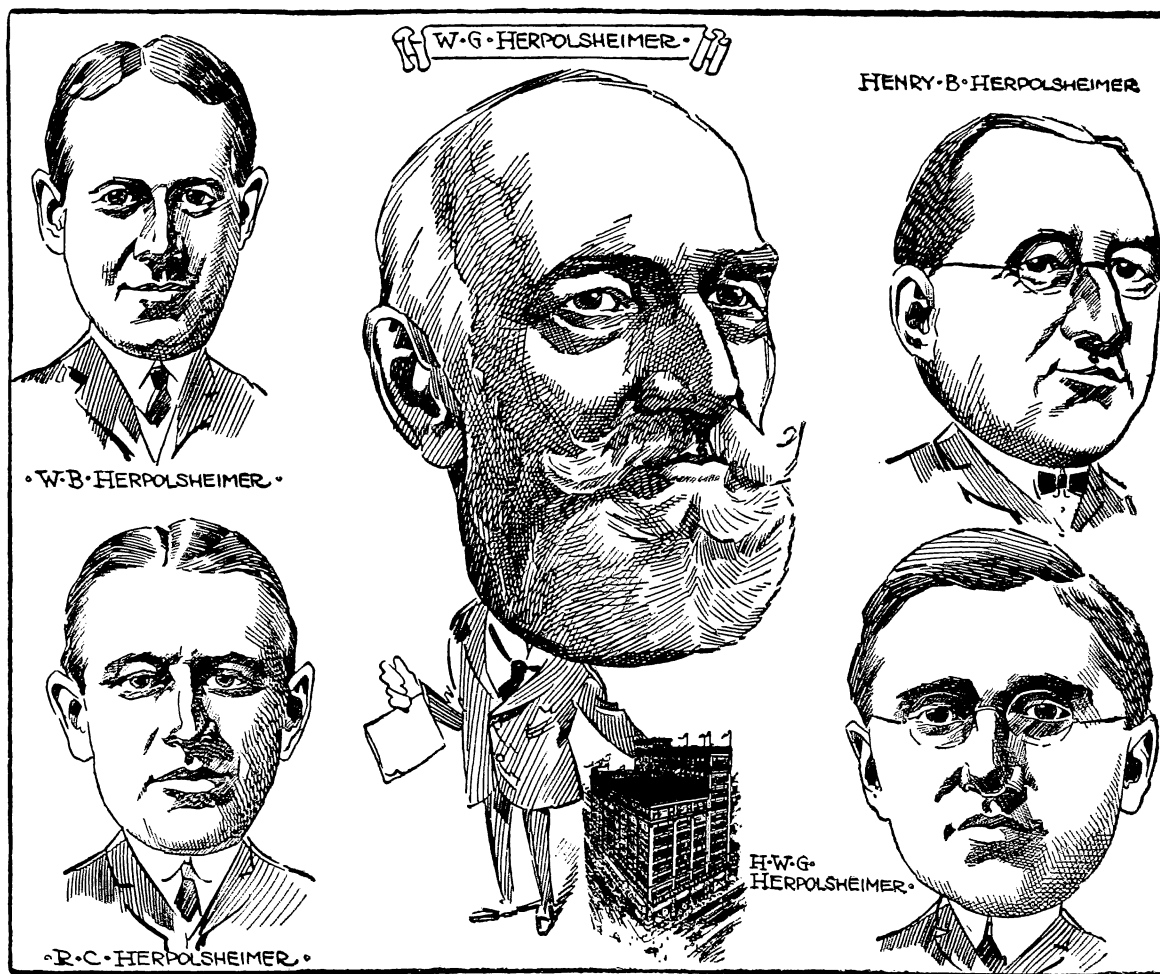


W. G. Herpolsheimer

W. G. Herpolsheimer is the founder of the Herpolsheimer Department Store. On September 12, 1870 he established a dry goods business on the north side of Monroe avenue just west of Ottawa avenue under the name of Voigt, Herpolsheimer & Co. From the beginning the mammoth Herpolsheimer store of today, has grown. Since its inception the Herpolsheimer store has had four locations, enlarging and branching out with each change.

W. G. Herpolsheimer like several other of the most successful business men of Grand Rapids, was born in Germany and emigrated to this country early in life. His business career began in New Carlisle, Indiana, when he became an apprentice to a general merchant in that town. He applied himself diligently to his work and when his apprenticeship was over he had a thorough knowledge of merchandising. On that knowledge is based the successful store of today.

The Herpolsheimer store today represents the most recent steps in modern department store building and management. Every wish of the shopper is anticipated and the store is a twentieth century palace of convenience and fashion. Mr. W. G. Herpolsheimer is still connected with the store, giving it the benefit of his matured experience.



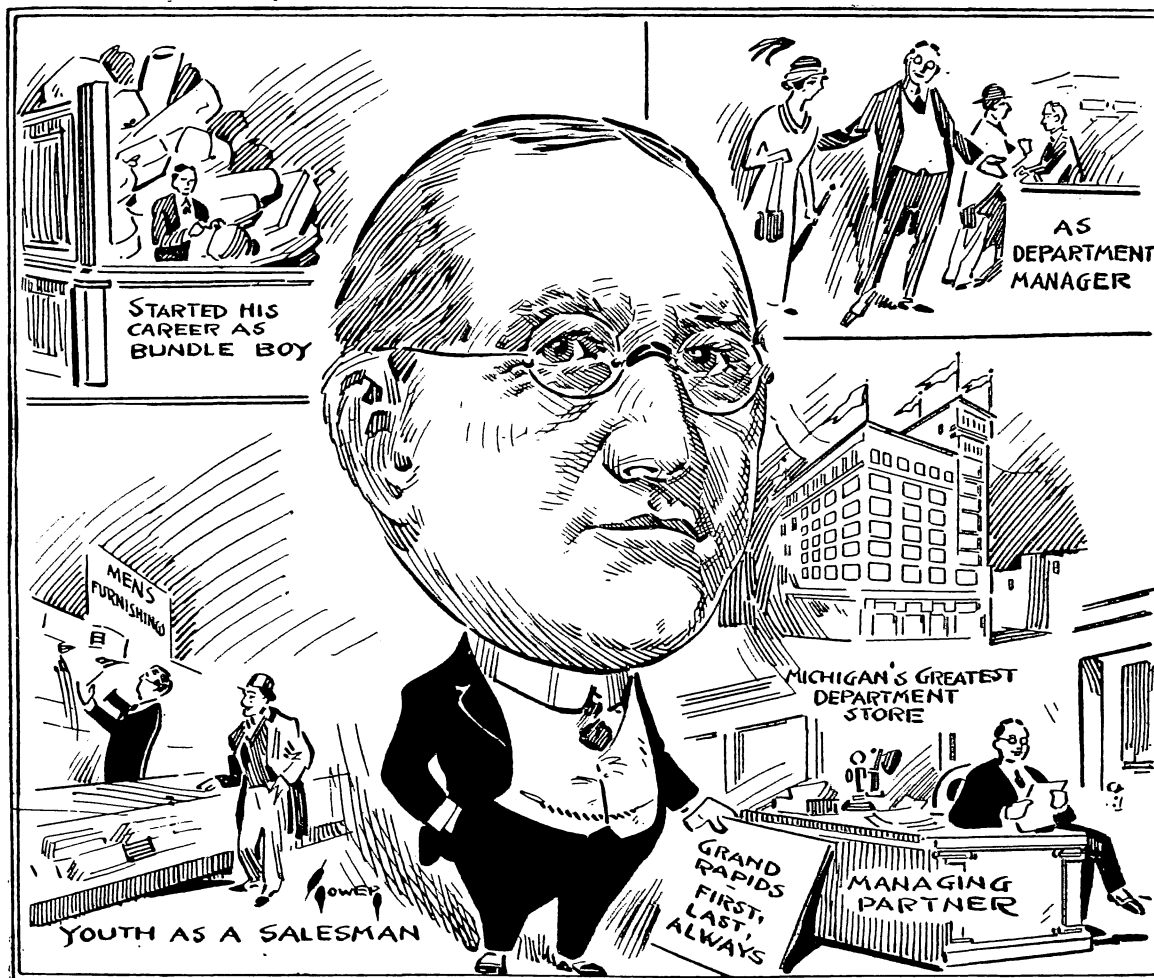
Henry B. Herpolsheimer.

Henry B. Herpolsheimer, eldest son of W. G. Herpolsheimer who established the Herpolsheimer store, is at present managing partner of that institution. Henry Herpolsheimer's life parallels the growth of the Herpolsheimer store for he has been associated with it since childhood and has given it the best of his energy, time and thought.

Mr. Herpolsheimer has lived practically all his life in Grand Rapids. He was educated in the schools of this city and started to work at the age of 15. The broad viewpoint he has taken of his duties has made his every day work an education in itself.

Even when a boy Mr. Herpolsheimer was absorbed in the Herpolsheimer store and he determined to learn the department store business thoroughly. Accordingly he started in at the bottom and worked up step by step. His first position was behind the bundle counter wrapping parcels. From this he graduated to a salesman and worked in many of the different departments.

Mr. Herpolsheimer at present writing has occupied this position of managing partner for many years and much of the credit for the place the Herpolsheimer store holds among the leading department stores of the country, is due to his abilities.



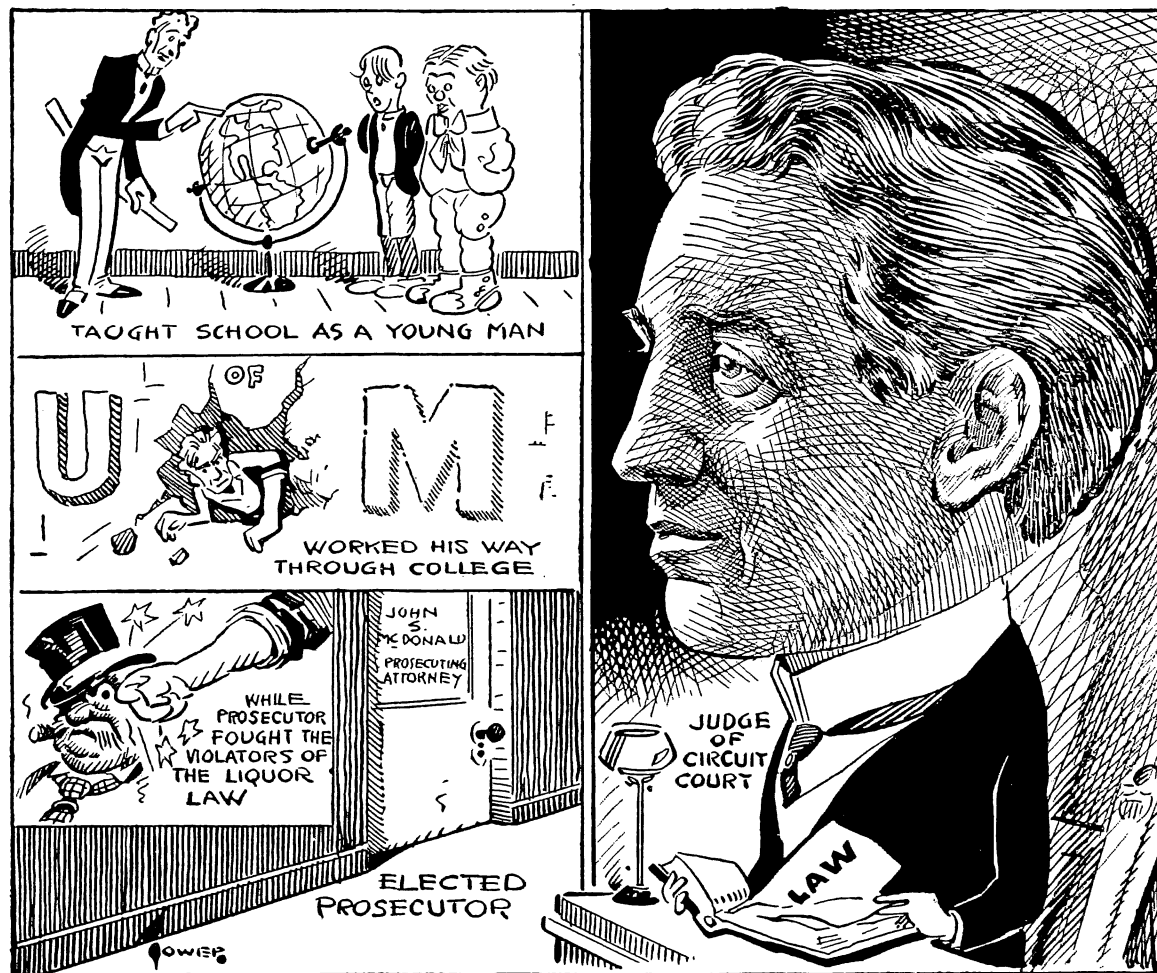
John S. McDonald

John S. McDonald, circuit judge, is best known as an enemy of organized vice. The chastening effect of his activities in this line while he was prosecutor is still noticeable in Grand Rapids. In one campaign he prosecuted saloon-keepers who were violating the liquor laws so effectively that their fines totalled \$5,000. He went after disorderly rooming houses in the same successful manner.

Judge McDonald had a hard struggle obtaining his education but has made good use of it. He was born in Iroquois, Ont. He obtained part of his education there and attended high school at Bridgetown and St. Catherine. He returned to Iroquois to teach school and left the Tecumseh school, located on the spot where the battle of the Thames was fought, to take a teaching position in this city.

By alternating his teaching with college he was able to attend the University of Michigan two years. He then entered local law offices. In 1896 he was appointed assistant prosecuting attorney and held this place four years. He began the practice of law following this and in 1906 successfully ran for prosecuting attorney. It was then he began his strenuous warfare for a cleaner city.

In April 1908 Judge McDonald was appointed to the circuit bench by Governor Warner and he has been re-elected twice.

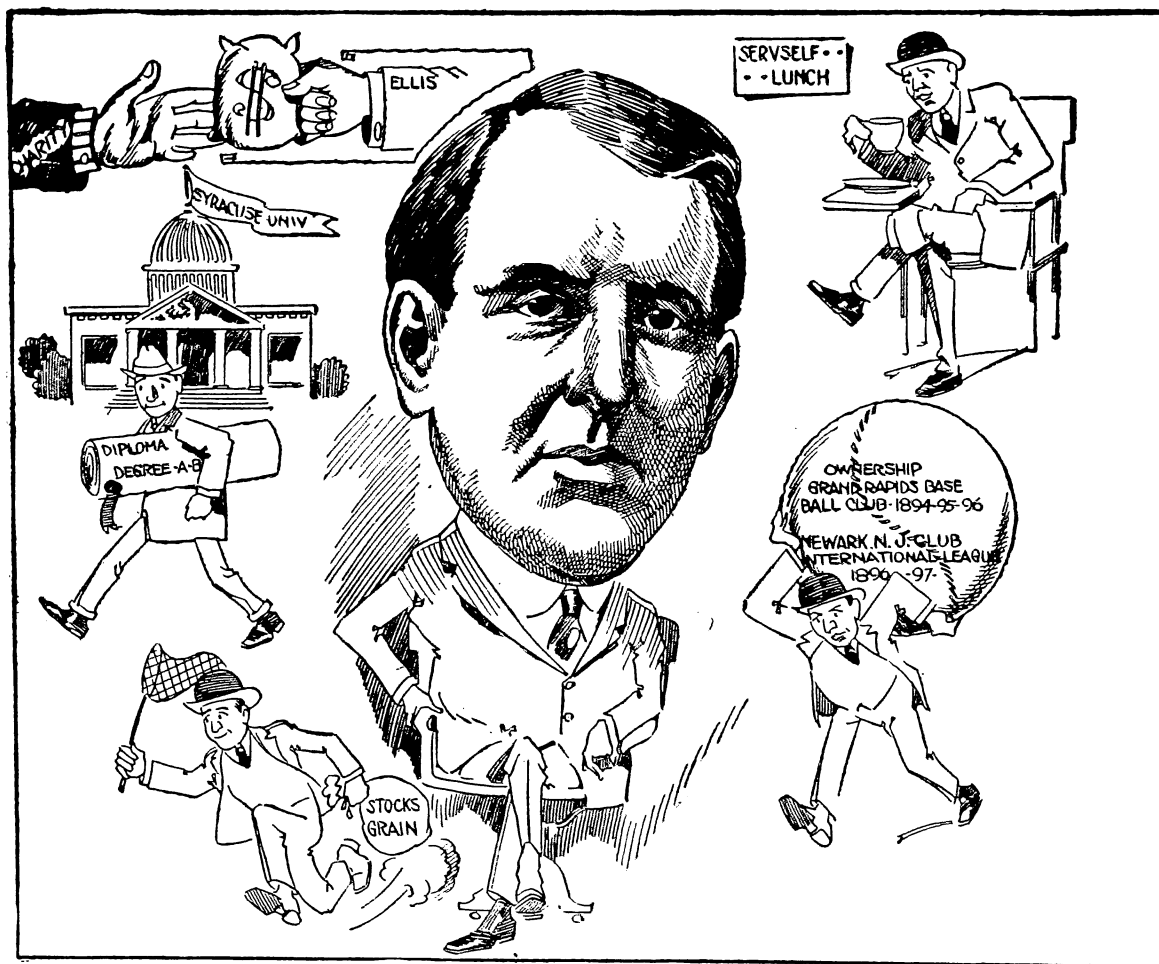


George E. Ellis

George E. Ellis, five terms mayor of Grand Rapids, has exerted as much influence on the city of Grand Rapids as any other individual in the past decade. As mayor he has spent more time in the duties of his office than probably any other mayor in the country. He has interested himself in every branch of the city government and in his own words he is "willing to be responsible for results."

Mayor Ellis was born in Belleville, N. Y. in 1864. He attended Syracuse University and was graduated with an A. B. degree. He went west after leaving college and was treasurer for a ranching concern for some time. He came to Grand Rapids about 1882 and was owner of the Grand Rapids Western League baseball team in 1894-5-6. He is a baseball enthusiast and his teams were admittedly good.

Following his baseball activities he was in the brokerage business until his election to the mayoralty in 1906. Since then his wife has handled all his outside business leaving him free for civic work. He has many enemies but is strongly supported by the working classes.



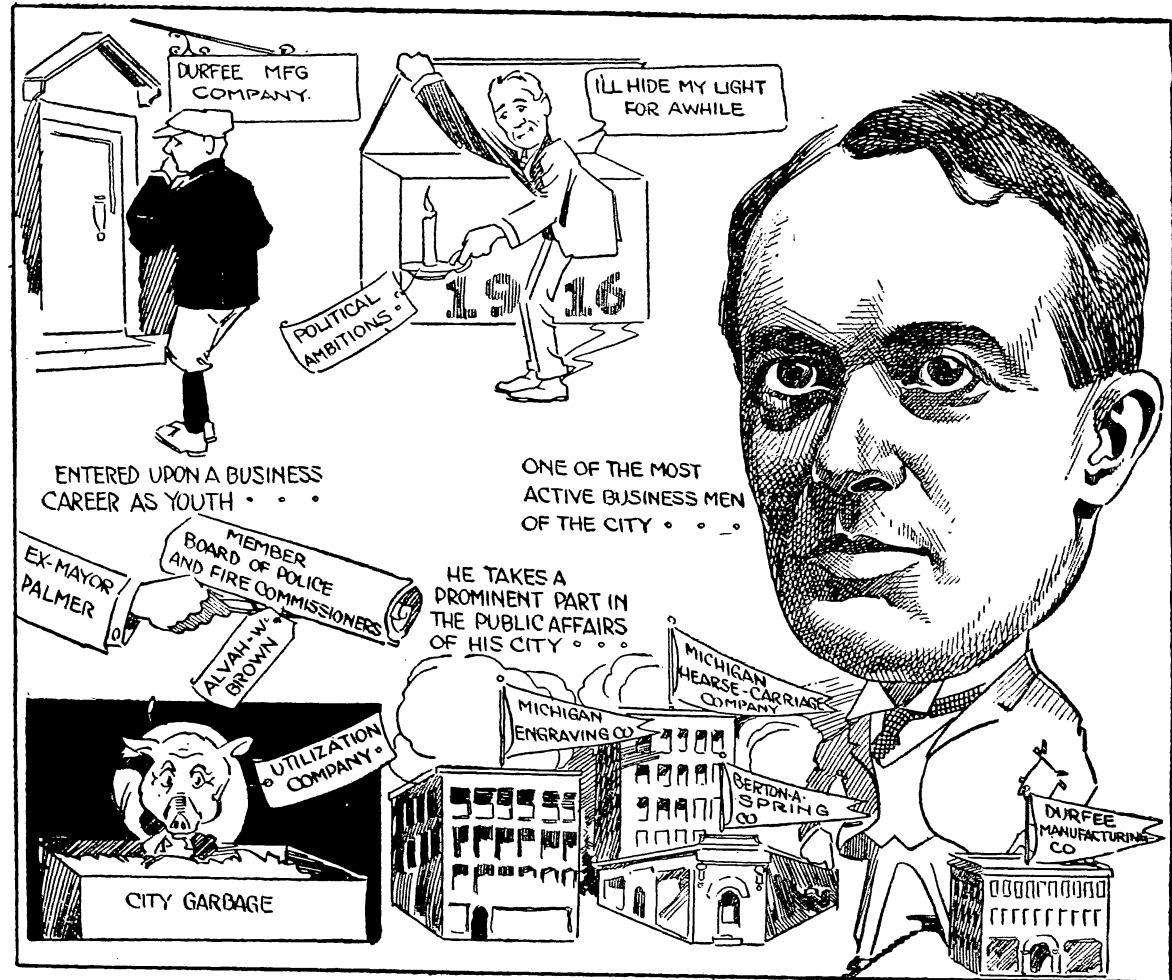
Alvah Brown

Alvah Brown, a native of Kent county, was born at Brownsville, now Alaska, Caledonia township in 1865, educated in the city schools and is one of this city's most active business men. In 1889 Mr. Brown organized the Durfee Manufacturing company of which he is still the head. This concern makes and markets through a large force of travelers, specialties which are sold in every state and territory.

The Michigan Hearse & Carriage company was organized in 1904 primarily through the efforts of Mr. Brown, and year after year he has been selected as its president. The Michigan Engraving company was also organized through Mr. Brown's initiative and he has served as an official since its start.

The Berton A. Spring company, funeral directors, in which Mr. Brown is largely interested, occupies the finest quarters and have the only complete motor vehicle equipment in this part of the country.

Alvah Brown is of the type of business men who can look after wide personal interests and yet find time to devote to public affairs. He served five years on the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners, was for ten years a director of the Board of Trade and served a number of years as director of the West Michigan State Fair and the Children's Home Association.

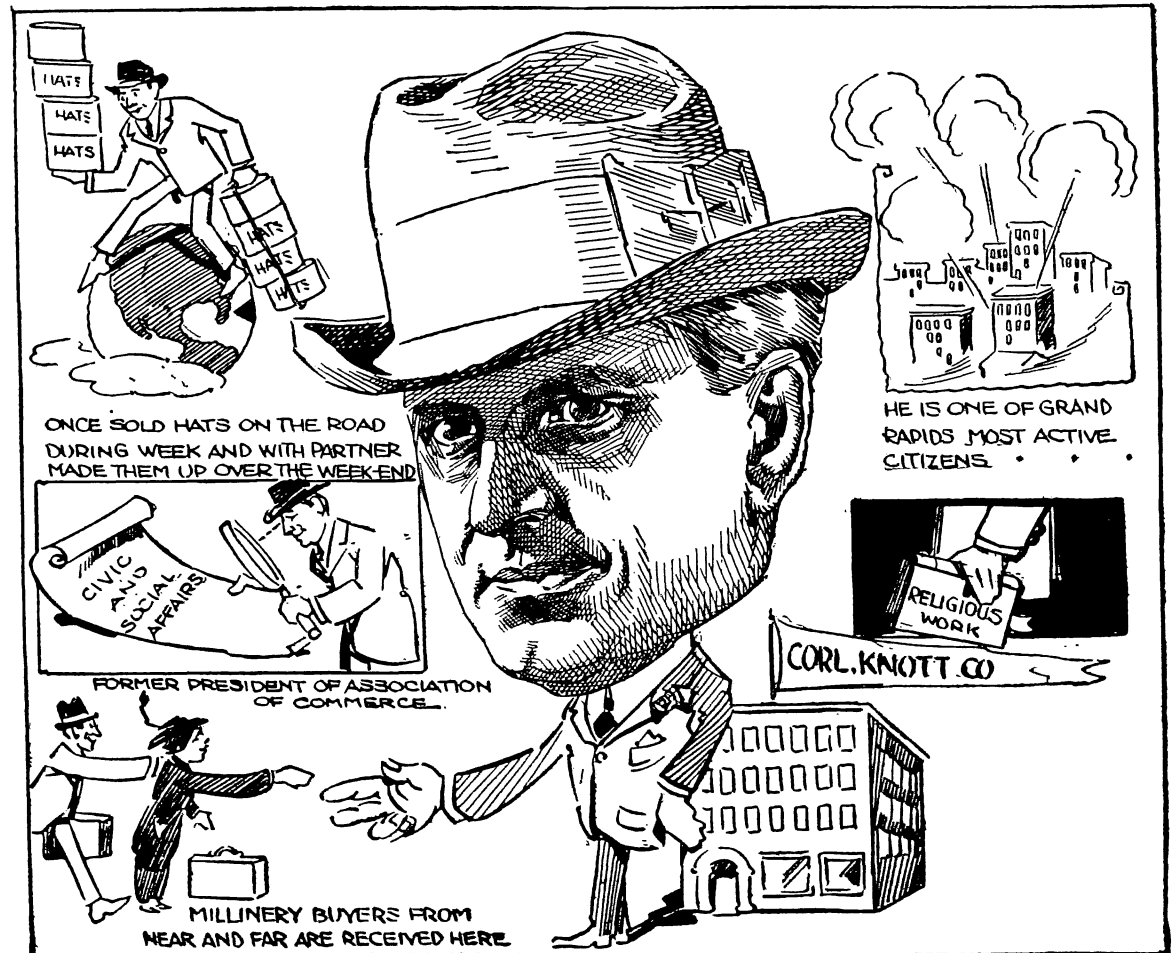


Heber A. Knott

Heber A. Knott, of the Corl-Knott company, having been president of the Association of Commerce, one of the city's most active and successful business men and an untiring church worker, is probably one of the best known members of this community. Like many others here represented he began at the bottom of the ladder and climbed up through sheer energy and merit.

Back in 1890 Mr. Knott and Samuel S. Corl decided there was room in Grand Rapids for a good wholesale millinery house. Without much capital but possessing a wealth of determination and a well defined plan of action, they started out. Their first location was at 75 Monroe avenue. Both Mr. Corl and Mr. Knott were on the road. They went out after orders every Monday and returned at the week end to ship them out. As they prospered more room became necessary and they moved to 22 North Division. From here they moved to their present edifice at Island street and Commerce avenue, a six story building that is one of the city's ornaments. The interior of the Corl-Knott building is even more beautiful than the outside. It is the mecca of the milliners of this part of the state during the millinery seasons, thereby bringing many visitors here annually.

He is the president of the O-wash-tanong club.

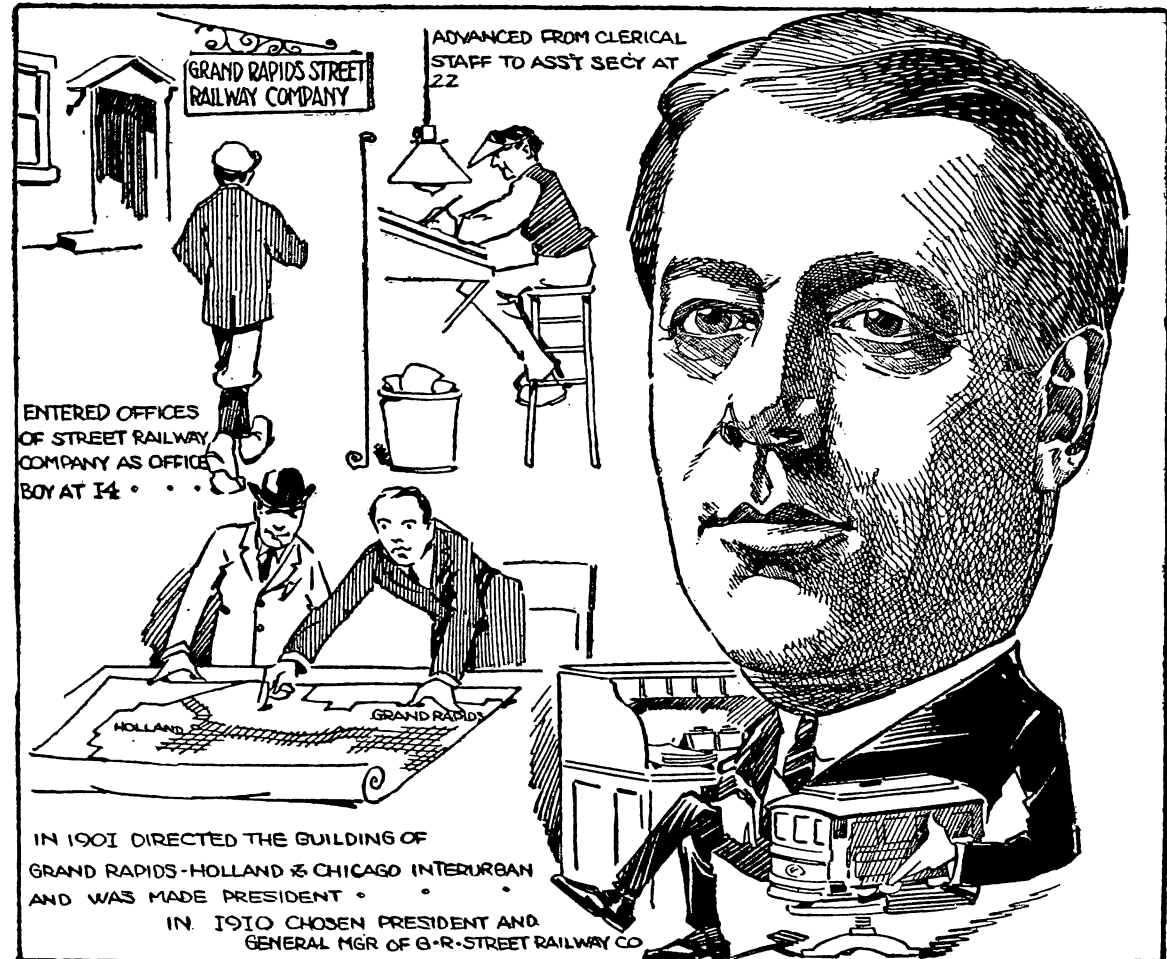


Benjamin S. Hanchett

Benjamin S. Hanchett, one of the most successful men in Michigan, has long been prominent in the community of western Michigan. From office boy he has risen to the position of president and general manager of one of the most prosperous street railway properties in the country, and has made only friends and admirers while doing it.

Born in this city in 1868, Mr. Hanchett was educated in the public schools of Grand Rapids until he was 14 years old. At that age he entered the office of the Grand Rapids Street Railway Co. as errand boy. His progress was steady and rapid and in 1889 he became secretary. His next step was secretary and treasurer. In 1901 he promoted and built the Grand Rapids, Holland & Chicago railway and was elected president. After 20 years of service, Mr. Hanchett was chosen president and general manager of the city traction company.

Because Mr. Hanchett has striven to make the street railway an instrument for the convenience and upbuilding of Grand Rapids, as well as a sound business enterprise, the relations between the public and company are as satisfactory as in any city of the country. The same harmony exists between the company and its men.

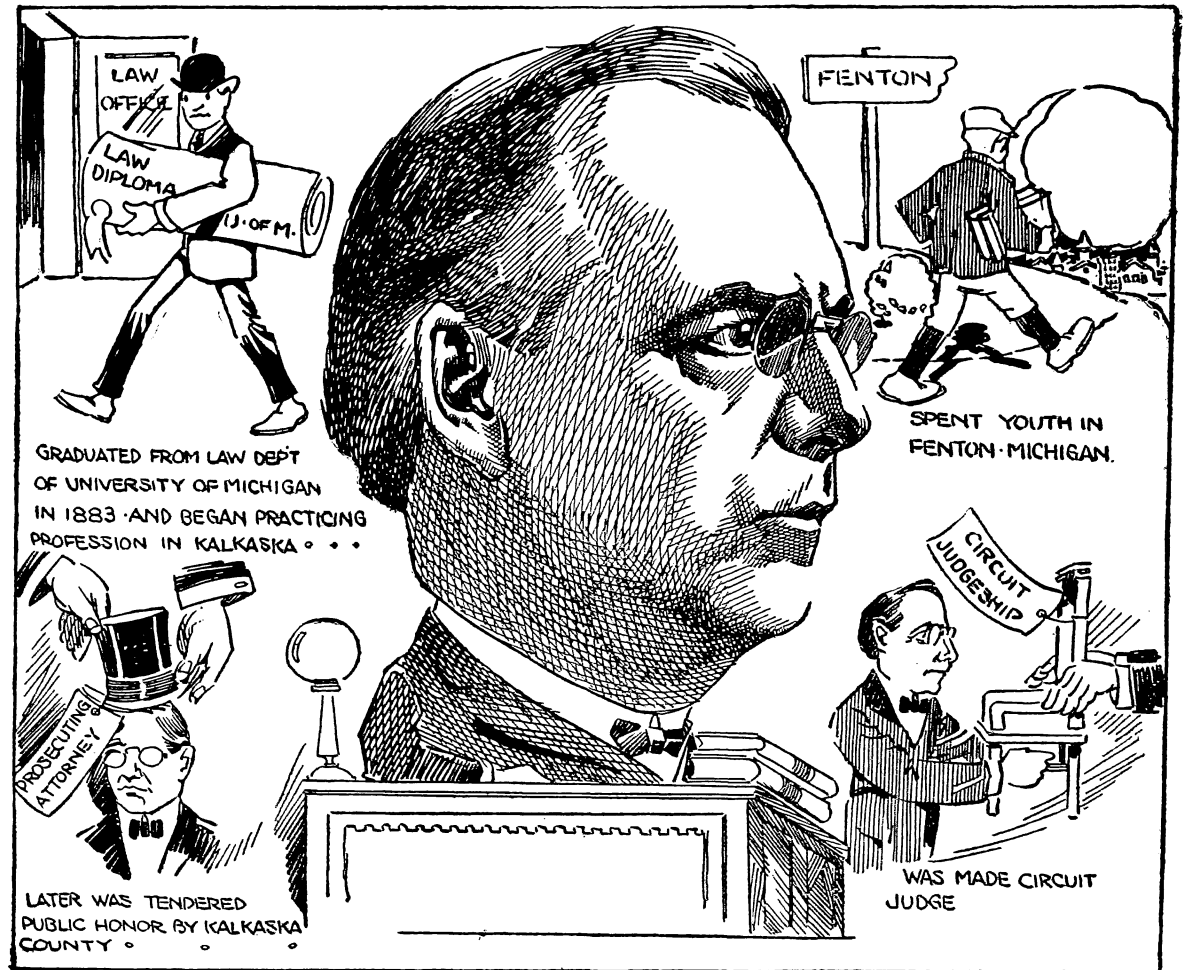


Willis B. Perkins.

Willis B. Perkins, judge of the Kent circuit court, is one of the senior jurists in point of service in Western Michigan. Like most of the other leading members of the bar in this state, he was a country boy who was early inspired with determination to study law, carrying out that ambition despite obstacles and discouragements.

Judge Perkins was born on the seventh of February, 1861, in Linden, Genesee county. He obtained his early education in Fenton, Michigan, where he spent his boyhood and, later in the public schools of Grand Rapids. Natural aptitudes for his life work and close application made it possible for him to graduate from the University of Michigan law department at the age of 22 years.

After leaving college Judge Perkins went to Kalkaska, Michigan, where he began practice of his profession. He was elected prosecutor in that county, but after completing his term he sought a larger field and came to Grand Rapids. He located here in 1889 and in 1899 was elected circuit judge. Because of his long service on the bench he has been arbiter in much litigation of importance in western Michigan, and enjoys a reputation for strict impartiality and far sighted justice.



Leonard D. Verdier

Leonard D. Verdier, state senator and practicing attorney in this city, has lived in Grand Rapids all his life having been born here, October 19, 1877, of Holland parentage. He was educated in the public schools of the city, graduating from high school in 1895. From high school he went to the University of Michigan where he took up a literary course. When he had completed this in 1899 he entered the law department and graduated in 1901.

After completion of his education, Senator Verdier returned to Grand Rapids and started the practice of law. His record since has proved him a capable attorney and he has built up a large and growing practice. Senator Verdier early showed an interest in government and entered the field of politics seven years after graduating from the university.

In 1908 he was elected to the state legislature and when his term expired in 1910 he was re-elected. In 1912 he aspired to the higher branch of the state's law-making body and he was elected state senator. He is a Republican and his record as a law-maker is a progressive one. He was connected with much legislation of importance and is the father of the Verdier bill which revised and made effective the home rule bill.



William E. Elliott

William E. Elliott, head of the Elliott Machine company, is one of the successful men of western Michigan, who combines inventive genius with executive ability. The Elliott products are sold all over the world and the industry is among the largest of its kind in existence. Its growth since it was organized in 1890 on a \$160,000 capitalization, except for one brief period, has been rapid.

Mr. Elliott was born in Marion, Iowa, Nov. 28, 1866. His father was owner of a shoe shop and while attending high school Mr. Elliott spent much time there, also showing great interest in machinery of all kinds. After leaving school he worked in his father's plant for five years, inventing, while there, a machine for fastening buttons on shoes. He was invited to demonstrate his device here and a company was formed to manufacture it.

At one time when his enterprise seemed doomed Mr. Elliott paid \$68,000 in debts he was under no legal obligations to assume and put the business back on a sound basis. He is active in Masonry, having been eminent commander of De Molai commandery, captain of Arab Patrol and potentate of the Mystic Shrine.

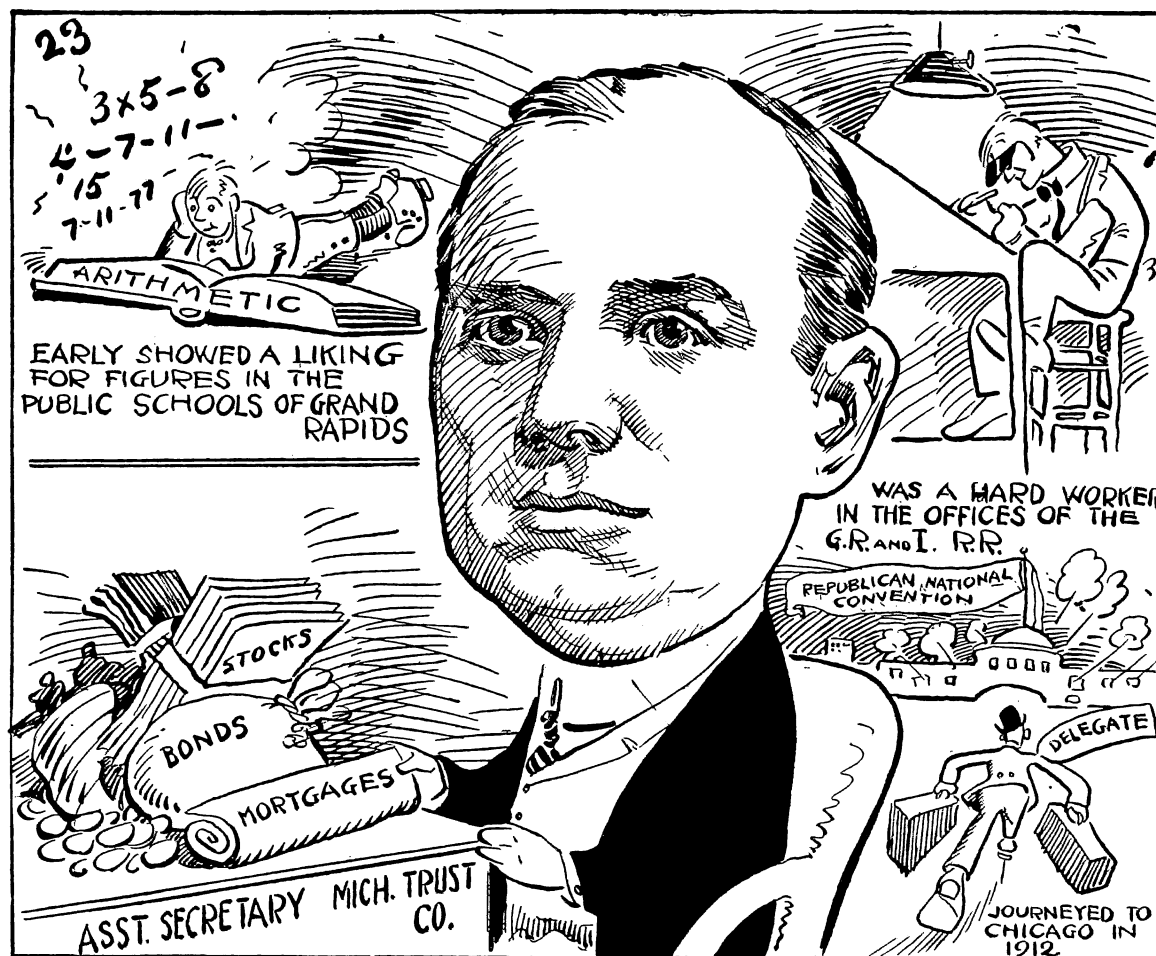


Claude Hamilton

Claude Hamilton, secretary of the Michigan Trust company, was born in Rockford, Michigan, March 21, 1873. He came to Grand Rapids at an early age and has been a resident here since. He attended public schools in this city after which he entered and graduated from high school.

He obtained a position with the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad company and remained with that corporation until 1894. From the railroad he went to the Michigan Trust company. From a modest position with the Michigan Trust company he rose steadily to the place of responsibility he now holds with one of the most influential financial institutions in western Michigan.

While attending to his principal life-work Mr. Hamilton has also found time for other activities. To both the civic and political affairs of Grand Rapids and western Michigan, he has given liberal service. Among other positions he has been member of the board of park commissioners and was a delegate to the famous National Republican convention in Chicago in 1912.

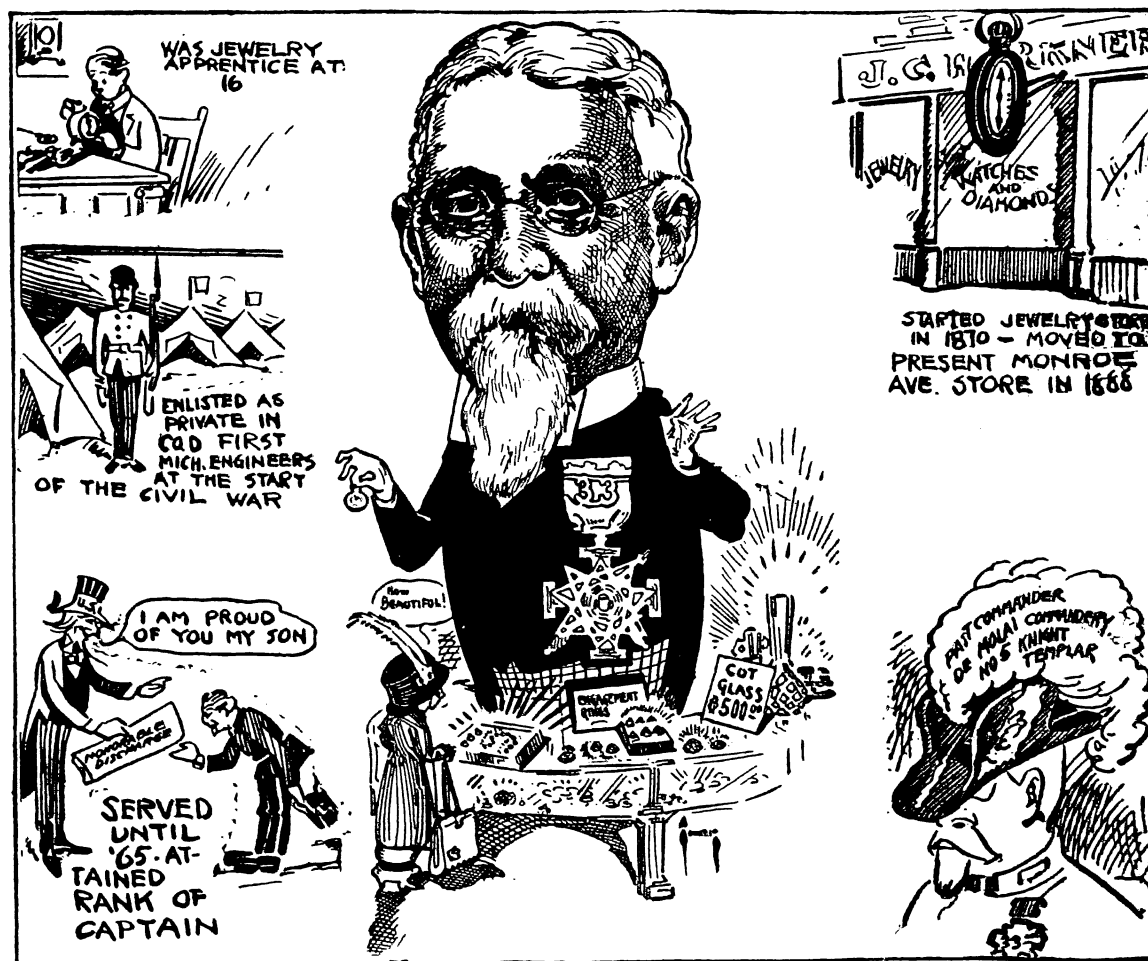


Joseph C. Herkner

Col. J. C. Herkner, for years the largest jeweler and diamond merchant in Grand Rapids, was also one of the pioneer business men of Monroe avenue. The store of Herkner Jewelry company built up from a small beginning now has as complete and high grade a stock as any retail jewelry house in the country. Colonel Herkner, though retired, continued to direct the policy of the store, until a short time before his death, which occurred in April 1914.

Born Dec. 1, 1840, in Germany, Col. Herkner spent his boyhood there. At the age of 9 he came to this country with his parents and was educated in the schools of the city. At 16 years he became a jeweler's apprentice and remained such until he enlisted in Company D First Michigan Engineers and Mechanics, as a private in 1862. When he received an honorable discharge in 1865 he held the rank of captain.

He established his present business in 1870. Col. Herkner was past commander of De Molai Commandery, No. 5, Knights Templar.

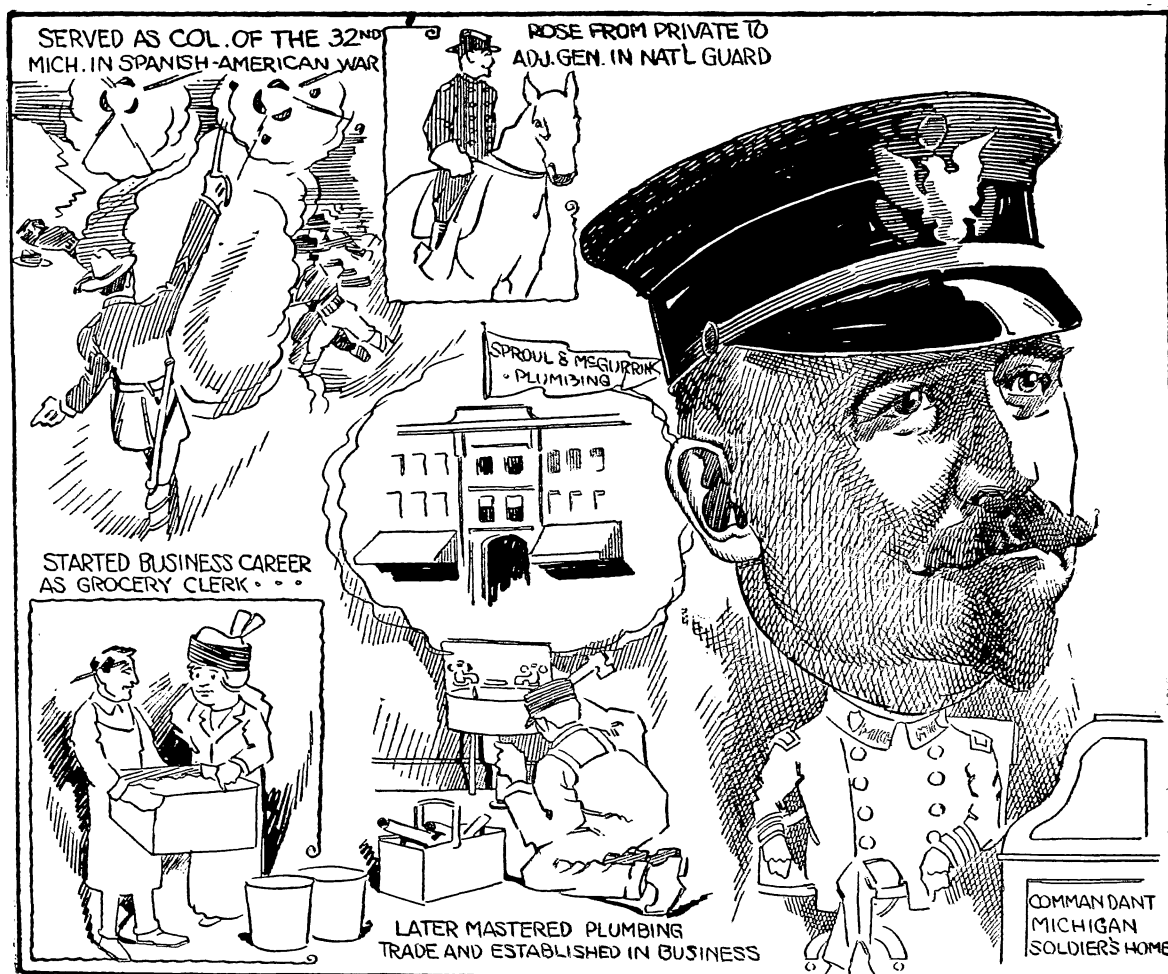


William T. McGurrin

Gen. William T. McGurrin, commandant of the Michigan Soldiers' Home located here, was one of the best known military men in Michigan as well as a prominent business man before he accepted appointment to the position he now holds. He has been commandant of the Soldiers' Home for three years and through his endeavors the institution is a model of its kind for the country.

Gen. McGurrin is a native of Grand Rapids having been born here Feb. 16, 1857. He was educated in the public schools of the city and started his business life as clerk in a grocery store on Monroe avenue near Market street in 1872. He abandoned that occupation for plumbing and learned his trade thoroughly. In 1876 he went into business, forming a partnership with the late Robert Sproul. The firm of Sproul & McGurrin, large plumbing contractors, still exists.

While a young man Gen. McGurrin enlisted in the Michigan National Guard as a private in 1877. He was advanced step by step in this organization and when he retired six years ago he had the rank of adjutant general. During the Spanish-American war he was colonel of the 32nd Michigan and his regiment was among the first to go to the front.

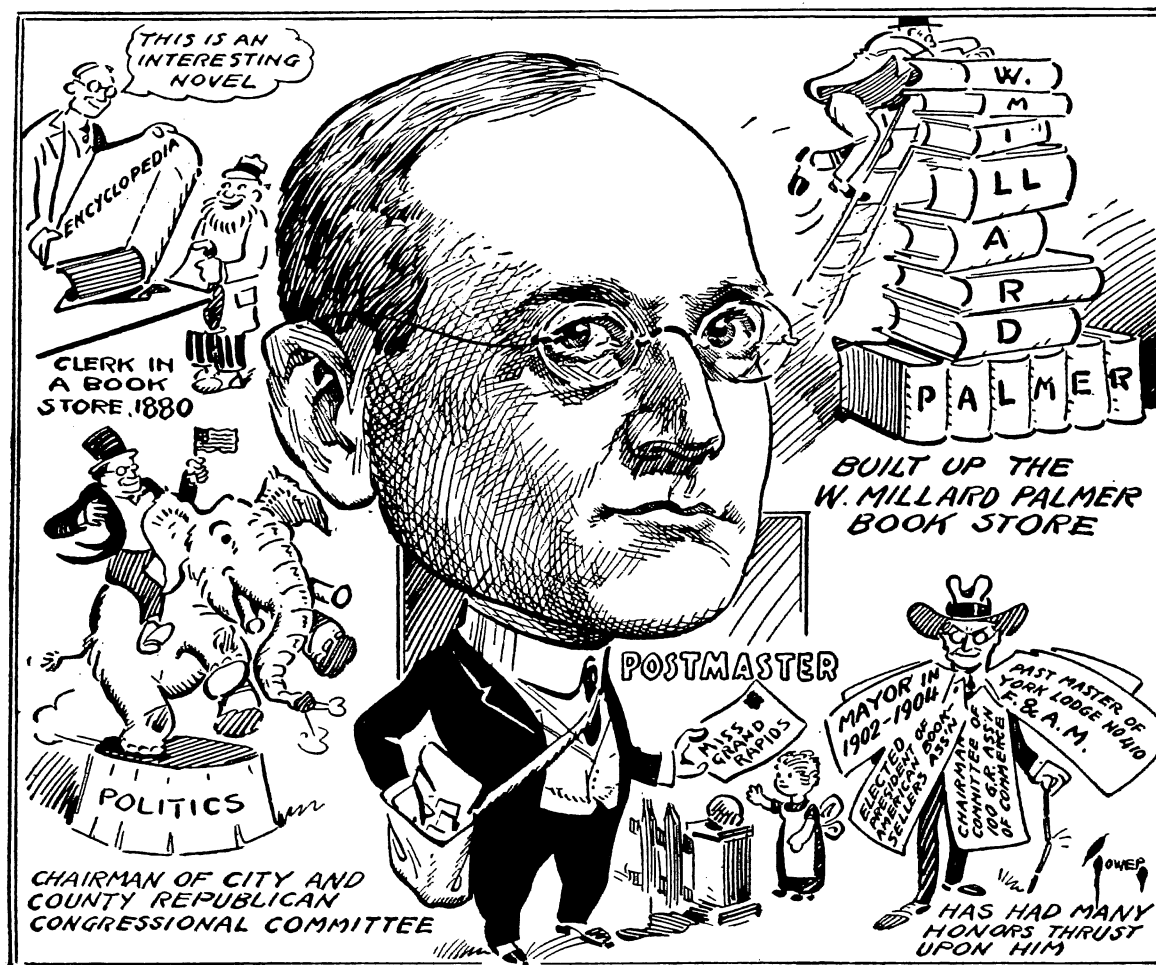


W. Millard Palmer

W. Millard Palmer, former postmaster of Grand Rapids, has been a successful business man as well as prominent in civic and national affairs. Besides building up one of the largest book stores in the city he was the chief operator in the real estate transaction by which the new Union Interurban Terminal will be located at Monroe avenue, Lyon and Huron streets.

Oakfield township, Kent county, Michigan, was Postmaster Palmer's birthplace but he was brought to this city by his parents at the age of two. He attended the Grand Rapids high school, on leaving which he entered a local law office. In 1880 he became clerk in a book store and 1892 went into a partnership. The business then started, afterward became the W. Millard Palmer company. While connected with this enterprise he was for four terms president of the American Booksellers' Association.

In 1902 Mr. Palmer was elected mayor. He disposed of his book business in 1910. His public activities included the chairmanships of the Republican city, county and congressional committees at various times. He was alternate delegate to the National Republican Convention in 1908. He has been a director of the Association of Commerce and chairman of the Committee of 100.



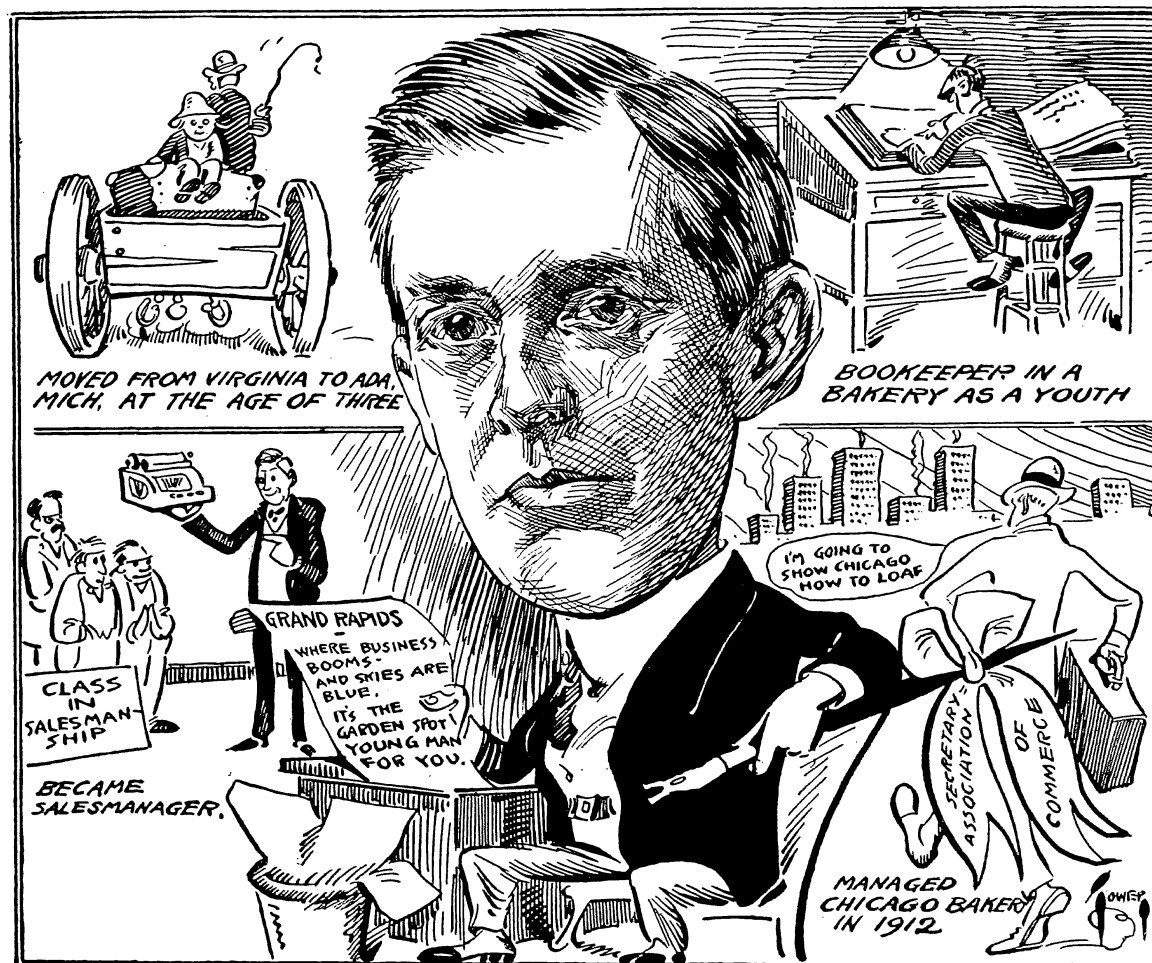
Walter K. Plumb

Walter K. Plumb, present secretary of the Grand Rapids Association of Commerce, is one of the most active of the young men in the business and civic life of Grand Rapids. Before accepting his present position he was manager of the Loose, Wiles Biscuit company, Chicago. Previous to that he was manager of the National Biscuit company in Grand Rapids.

Mr. Plumb was born in Amelia county, Virginia, of English antecedents. At the age of two, with his parents, he moved to Michigan, locating on a farm near Ada, in Kent county. He attended school there until about seventeen years of age when he came to Grand Rapids to enter the high school, later taking a business course.

In 1892 he entered the employ of the National Biscuit company, serving in various capacities in factory, office and sales department and later was made manager. After 19 years with this company he resigned to take the management of the Loose, Wiles Biscuit company, Chicago.

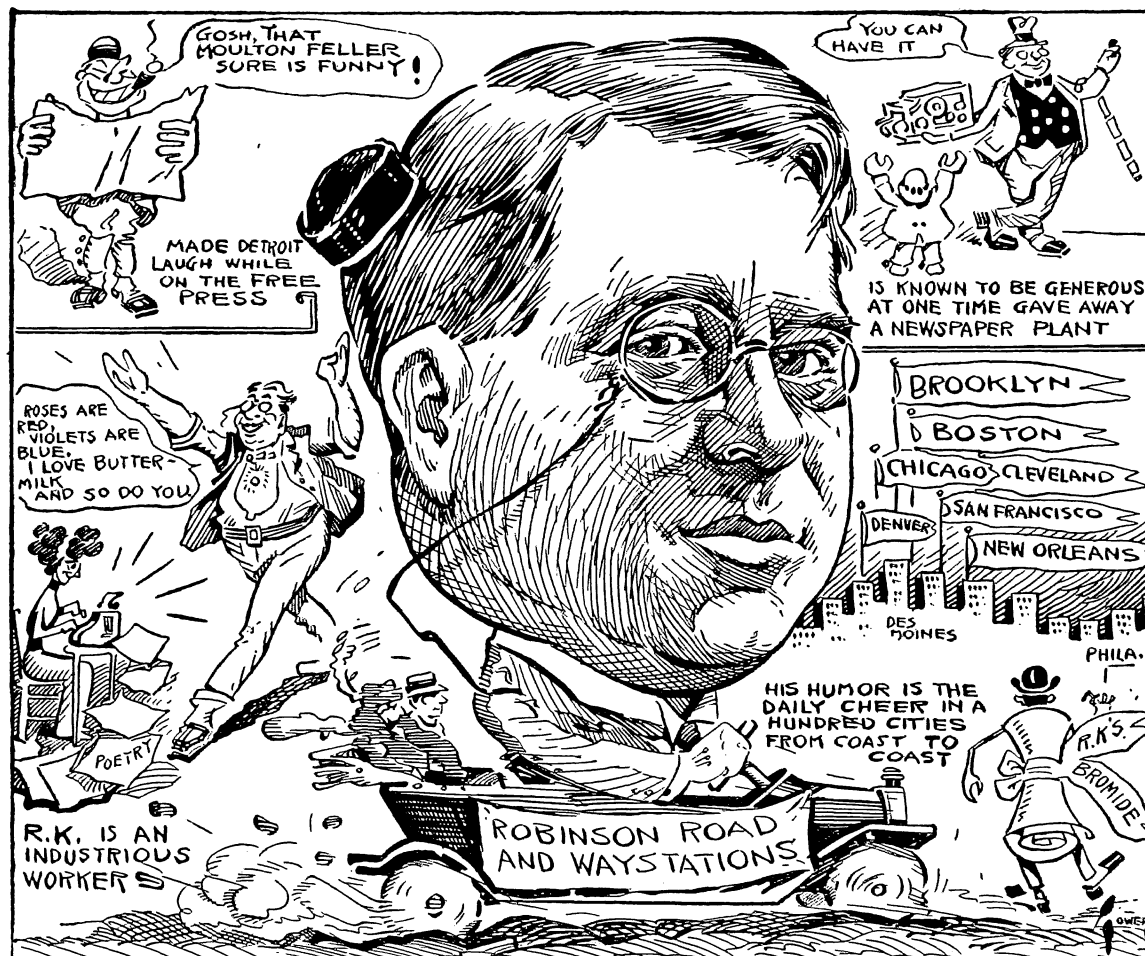
Mr. Plumb was an active worker in the Association of Commerce before he was offered the secretaryship, having served a number of years on various committees and as a director, also as vice-president for one term.



Roy K. Moulton

Roy K. Moulton is a name that is a familiar household word from Maine to California. The humorous matter written by Mr. Moulton is read daily by more than eight million readers. His writings appear in newspapers in Boston, New York City, Atlantic City, Philadelphia, Detroit, Albany, Cleveland, Savannah, Chicago, St. Louis, New Orleans, Denver, Salt Lake City, Seattle, San Diego, Sacramento, Des Moines, Milwaukee, San Francisco and many other cities. He is one of the stockholders in the Grand Rapids News and conducts a humorous column in that paper, which has become famous.

Mr. Moulton is a Michigan product, having been born at St. Joseph. He lives at 1512 Robinson Road, Grand Rapids. He was married in 1905 to Miss Edith Powers and they have one son, Powers Moulton, aged two years.

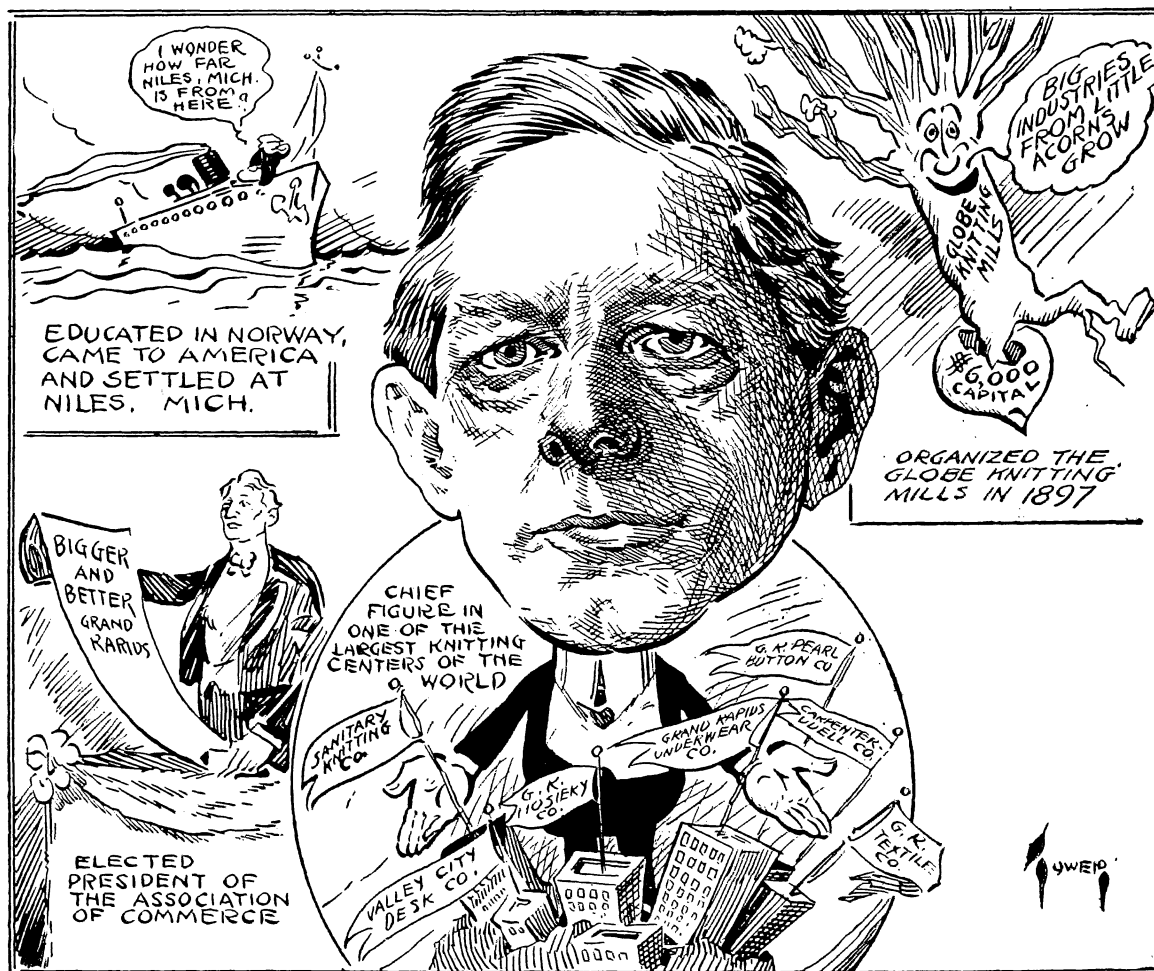


E. Alfred Clements

E. Alfred Clements, president of the Globe Knitting Works, is the principal figure in the knitting industry of Grand Rapids.

Mr. Clements was born in Norway in 1864. He was educated there and afterwards associated with his father in the manufacture of naval supplies. The call of the sea was strong and he followed it one year. Then he came to America and found employment in a knitting mill. He soon was superintendent of that mill, which was owned by the Star Knitting company of Niles, Mich.

When the Star Knitting company moved to Grand Rapids Mr. Clements came with it. In 1897, Mr. Clements and H. M. Liesveld organized the Globe Knitting Mills with a capitalization of \$6,000. The capital of the Globe Knitting Works today is \$600,000. Mr. Clements is now the employer of the largest number of female workers in this city. He is president of the following Grand Rapids industrial concerns: Globe Knitting Works, Sanitary Knitting company, Grand Rapids Hosiery company, Grand Rapids Pearl Button company, Grand Rapids Textile Machinery company, and the Calhoun Photo Materials company and is also prominently connected with the Carpenter-Udell company and the Parcel Post Equipment company. He served one term as president of the Association of Commerce.



Carl A. Clements

Carl A. Clements, vice-president and superintendent of the Sanitary Knitting company, is the second member of the Clements family, prominently connected with the textile industry in Grand Rapids. Like his brother E. A. Clements, who is president of the Globe Knitting Works, Carl Clements early learned factory management and has for years been engaged in textile manufacture.

Mr. Clements was born in Norway, Aug. 9, 1868. When but 14 years of age he came to this country, going to Chicago. His natural inclination was toward machinery and he learned the machinist's trade there. At the age of 19 he was made foreman of the factory where he had learned his trade and three years later was made assistant superintendent of the Turner Brass Works of Chicago, who employed 200 men at that time.

In 1899 Mr. Clements came to Grand Rapids and became superintendent of the Globe Knitting Works here, remaining in that position 10 years. In 1909 he resigned to assist in the organization of the Sanitary Knitting company. He has been connected with this enterprise since and much of its success is due to his expert knowledge of making knit goods.

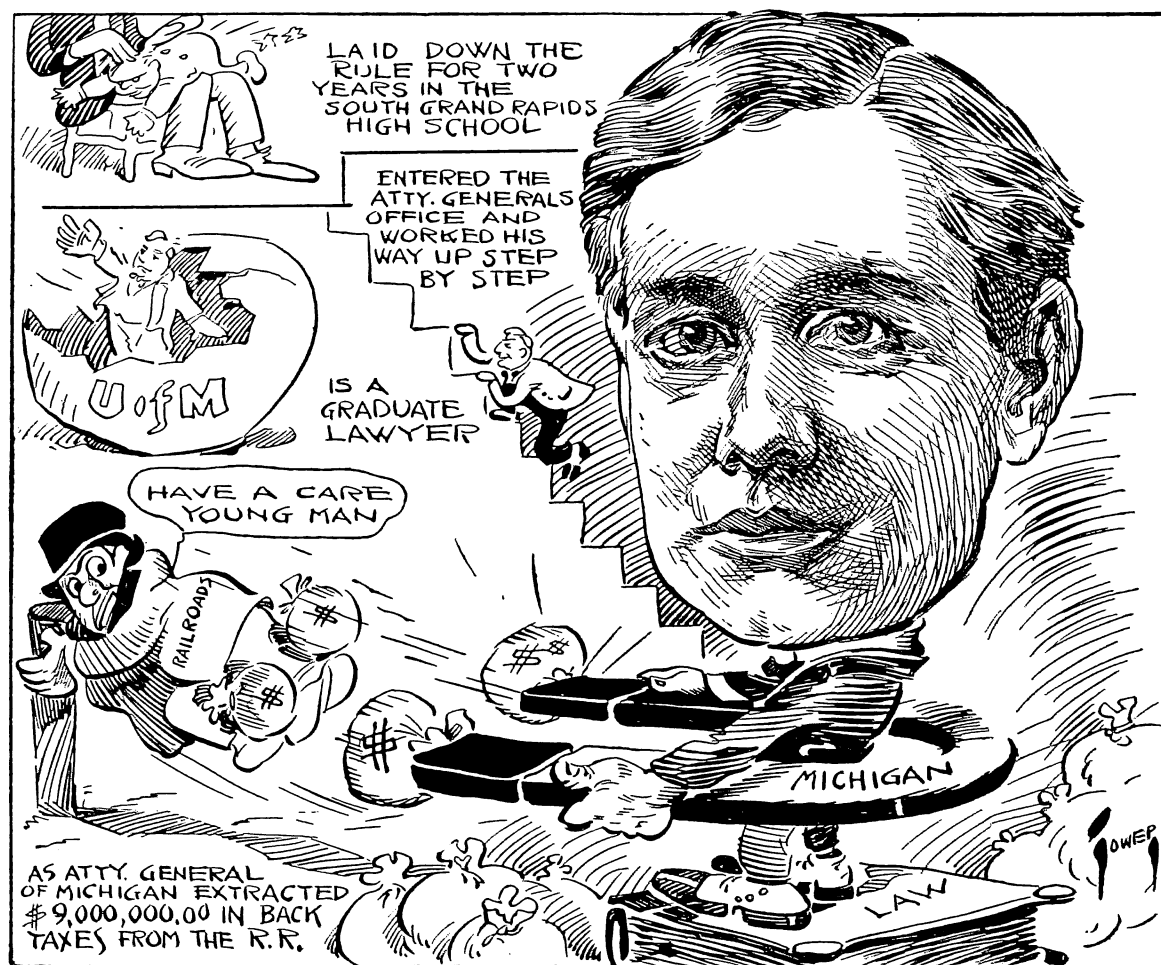


R. I. Wykes

Roger I. Wykes, former attorney general, and one of the state's most faithful servants, is a native son having been born in Grand Rapids, thirty-seven years ago. He taught classes in the south Grand Rapids high school for two years, before deciding on law for his life work. After graduating from the University of Michigan law department, Mr. Wykes entered the office of the attorney general at Lansing as a law clerk. He worked up step by step and was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Franz Kuhn in 1912.

Mr. Wykes has given great service to Michigan as a tax expert and champion of the state against "privilege." He handled the famous railroad cases that brought \$9,000,000 back taxes and an annual income of \$1,500,000 into the state treasury. He was chairman of the special commission that originated the corporate excess tax law now in effect and has twice represented the state at international tax conferences.

Lack of space prevents even a comprehensive summary of Mr. Wykes efforts in behalf of Michigan. He once declined a circuit judgeship in Kent county because he believed he would have greater usefulness elsewhere.

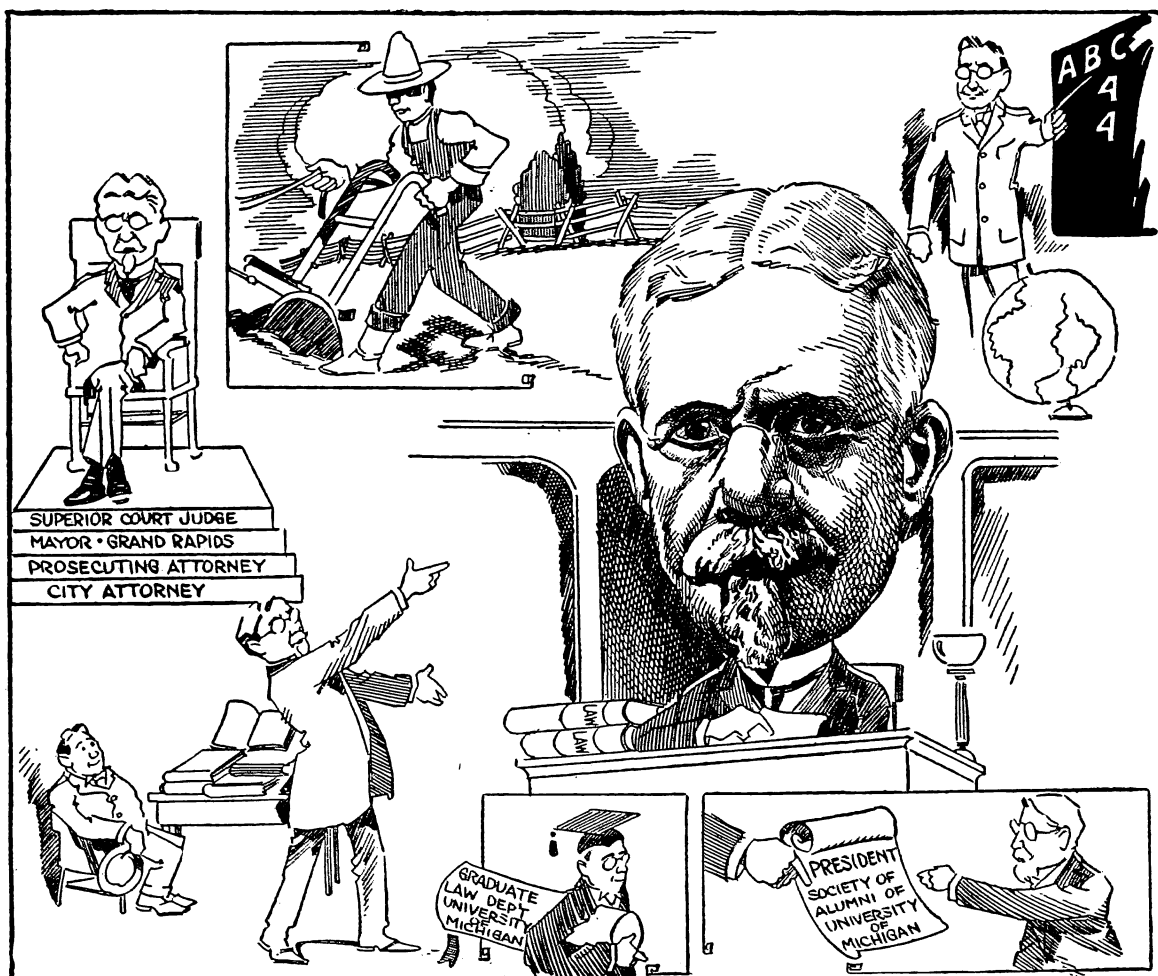


William J. Stuart

Judge William J. Stuart, of the Superior court, has given much of service to Grand Rapids and Kent county. Like many other of the successful citizens of western Michigan, Judge Stuart was born on a farm and acquired an education through tireless effort and resolute determination.

Born on a farm in Barry county, Judge Stuart attended the schools of the county in winter, helping his father in the summer. At 15 years of age he entered the public schools of Hastings and from there went to high school at Kalamazoo, graduating in 1863. He taught a country school for a term, then went to the University of Michigan, graduating with an A. B. degree in 1868. He was superintendent of the public schools at Hastings for three years and the university two years to take a law course.

He was admitted to the bar in 1872 and practiced law till elected judge in 1905. He served first as assistant prosecuting attorney; then city attorney two terms; prosecuting attorney one unexpired term and one elective. Following that he was mayor two terms and next was elected to the superior court bench. He served as a member of the board of education of this city and also as president of the Society of Alumni of the University of Michigan.

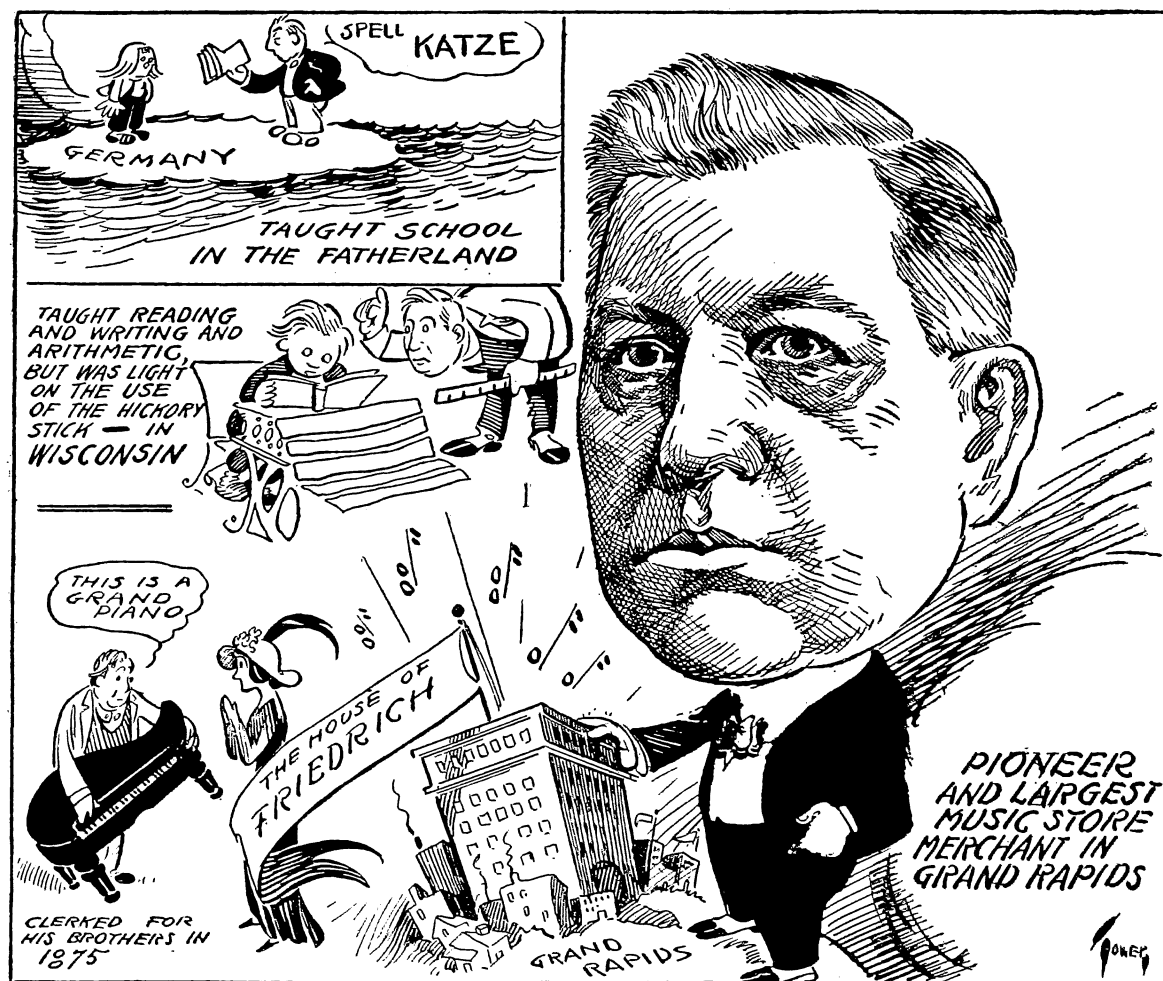


Julius A. J. Friedrich

Coming to the United States almost a matured man, Julius A. J. Friedrich learned the language and customs of this country well enough to establish and manage one of the largest and most thriving retail enterprises in Grand Rapids. Mr. Friedrich was born in Rosenfelde, Pomerania, Nov. 3, 1850. He was educated in the schools of the city and served as a teacher there for one year.

In 1868 Mr. Friedrich emigrated to this country going to Addison, Wis., where he entered a teachers' college. He graduated in two years and after that taught for five years in the schools of that state. Deciding to abandon teaching he came to Grand Rapids in 1875 and entered as clerk, the music store owned by his two brothers. When they withdrew he succeeded to the business and has given it all his attention since.

Under his direction the business was built up until the House of Friedrich is the best known music concern in western Michigan. The only public office Mr. Friedrich has ever accepted is membership on the board of library commissioners.

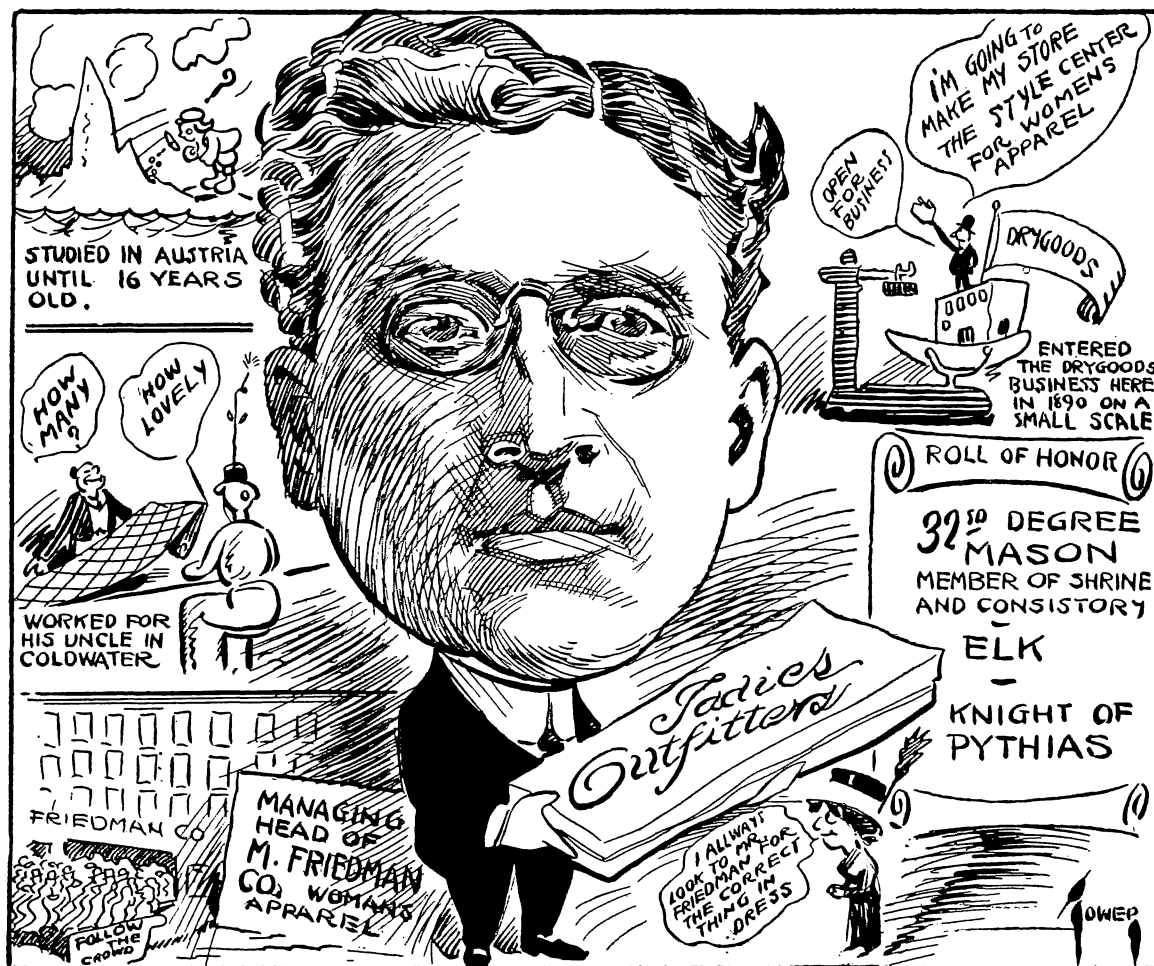


Morris Friedman

Morris Friedman, head of one of the leading stores in the city, started his store on a small scale and built it to its present proportions by combining sound values and the most recent fashions, with low prices. His store, dealing as it does exclusively in woman's apparel and accessories is distinctively a woman's store and is a leader in the state in exclusive costumes and garments.

Mr. Friedman was born September 17, 1864 in Austria where he lived until 1880. At the age of 16 he came to the United States, having gained his education in the schools of Austria. He went to Coldwater, Michigan where he worked for some time in a dry goods store owned by his uncle, a member of the firm of Friedman & Roth. For several years previous to his coming to Grand Rapids, Mr. Friedman worked in a Friedman store in Muskegon whence he came to this city.

In 1901 the present Friedman store was established and its progress since in attaining its present reputation has been steady. Mr. Friedman is a 32nd degree Mason, being a member of the Consistory and Mystic Shrine. He also belongs to the Order of Elks and is a Knight of Pythias.

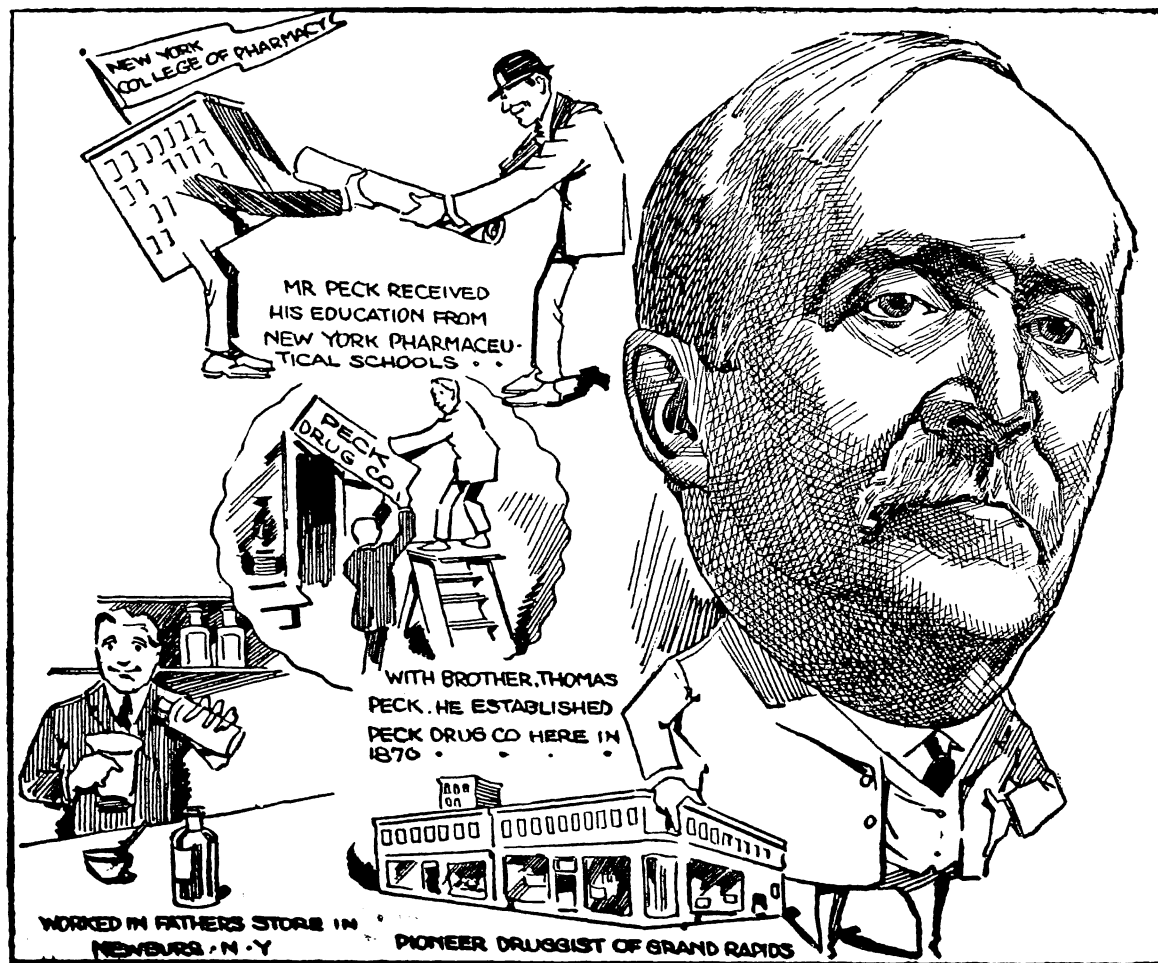


John E. Peck

John E. Peck, is a pioneer in the drug store business in Grand Rapids, having entered the trade here in company with his brother, Thomas M. Peck, deceased, in 1876. By giving their enterprise all their energy and thought, the two brothers gradually built up the business until it was one of the leading thoroughly equipped stores in the city, a position that is still maintained.

Mr. Peck's education was obtained in New York state. He was born in Newburg, N. Y., March 4, 1844, of New England ancestry. After going through the public schools of his native city Mr. Peck attended the Hudson River institute and the College of Pharmacy in New York city. His education completed Mr. Peck was employed in his father's pharmacy in Newburg. In 1875 he and his brother came to Grand Rapids.

The Peck Drug company has been successful because it always had the undivided attention of both Mr. Peck and his brother, the public and physicians being given always a prompt and reliable service. J. A. Beukema assumed by purchase the financial responsibility of the store recently on the retirement of John E. Peck, Thomas Peck having retired about five years previously. John E. Peck, however, continues to make his headquarters in the drug store and also continues his activity in things pertaining thereto.

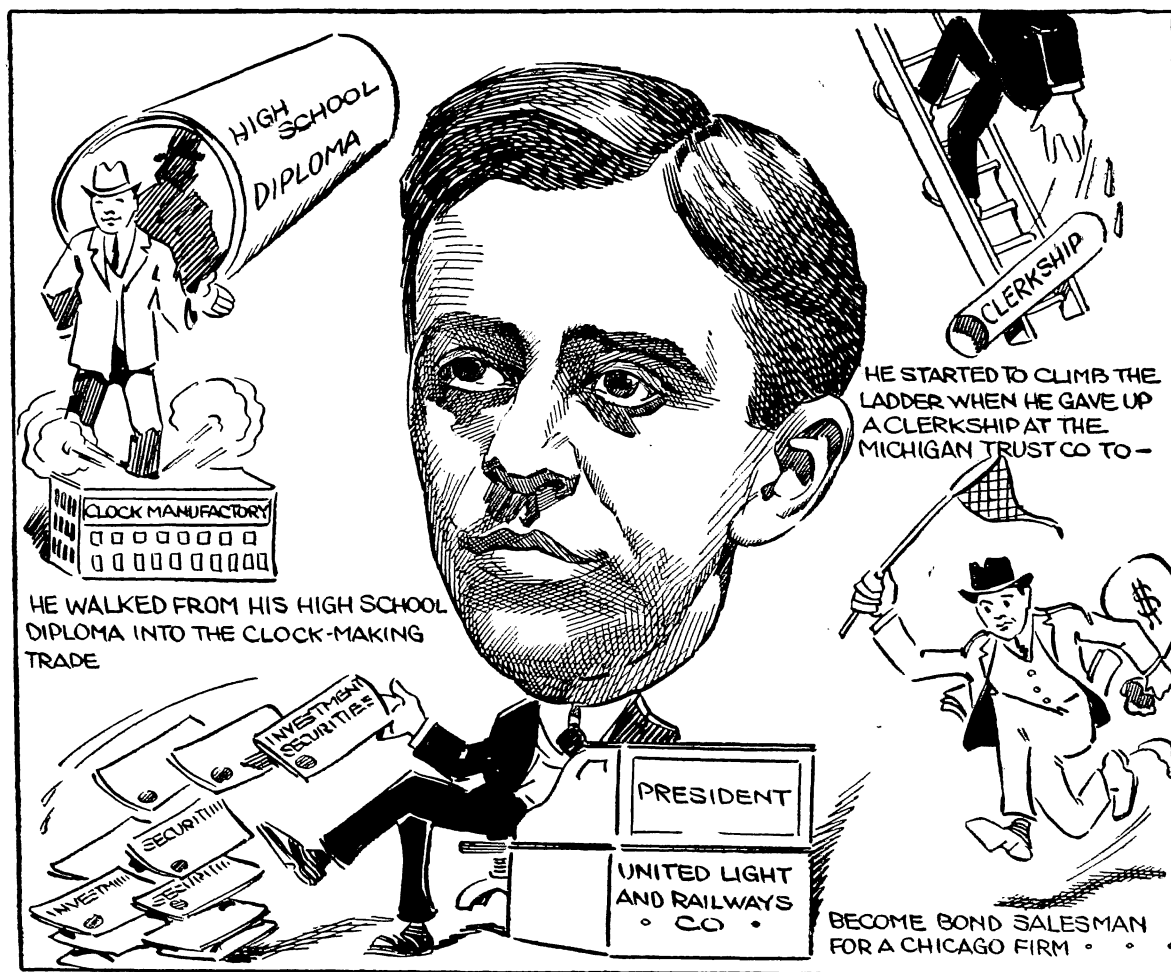


Frank T. Hulswit

Frank T. Hulswit, president of the United Light & Railways company, a concern holding thirteen railroad and public service—gas and electric—corporations, located in five states, was born in Michigan in 1875 of Holland parentage. He is self-made, having started in life modestly and attained his present position, step by step through his own efforts.

When his education was completed Mr. Hulswit started to learn the trade of clock-making. He soon found this too irksome and limited and obtained a clerkship with the Michigan Trust company in January, 1895. He learned much of finance here and in 1902 became a bond salesman for a Chicago firm, being successful in this position for two years.

In 1904 he was ready for further climbing and together with Richard Schaddalee and Ralph S. Child, re-organized the Child-Hulswit & Company in this city. This firm continued until October 1910, when it was dissolved by mutual consent. In July 1910 in conjunction with Mr. Schaddalee and prominent Chicago and Boston bankers, he organized the United Light & Railways company, Mr. Hulswit becoming president and Mr. Schaddalee first vice-president. The scope of the company as operators and financiers of Public Utility companies has steadily increased until now it has an annual gross income of more than \$6,000,000.

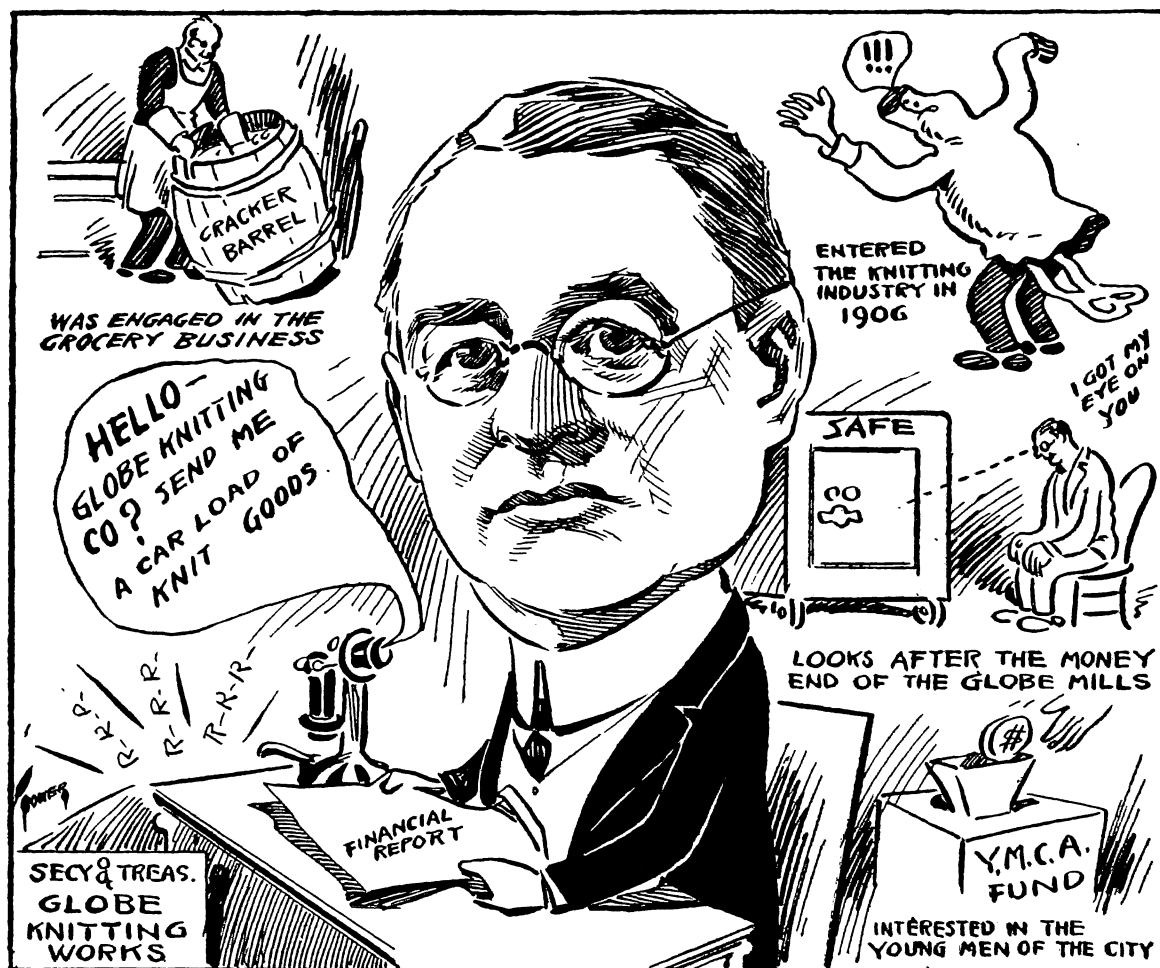


Herman Liesveld

Herman M. Liesveld, of the Globe Knitting Mills, is one of the pioneers in the knitting industry in this city, having assisted in the organization of the Globe Mills in 1906. Since then he has given that enterprise the best of his time, thought and ability, and a large share of credit for the success of the Globe Knitting Mills is due him.

Mr. Liesveld spent the early part of his life in the grocery business. He was successful in this but when he and E. A. Clements discussed the possibilities of textile manufacture here, the future in that line looked so good that he abandoned his grocer connections. The history of the Globe Mills since has justified his choice. The company was organized on a capital of \$6,000 and with a small equipment. Today the plant is one of the most modern in the country and its high grade union suits, hosiery and other knit garments are sold all over the world.

Mr. Liesveld has always been interested in welfare work and has been president of the Young Men's Christian Association here. His interest this way has also been shown in treatment given the 600 and more employes of the Globe Mills for whom much has been done to make their working conditions pleasant.

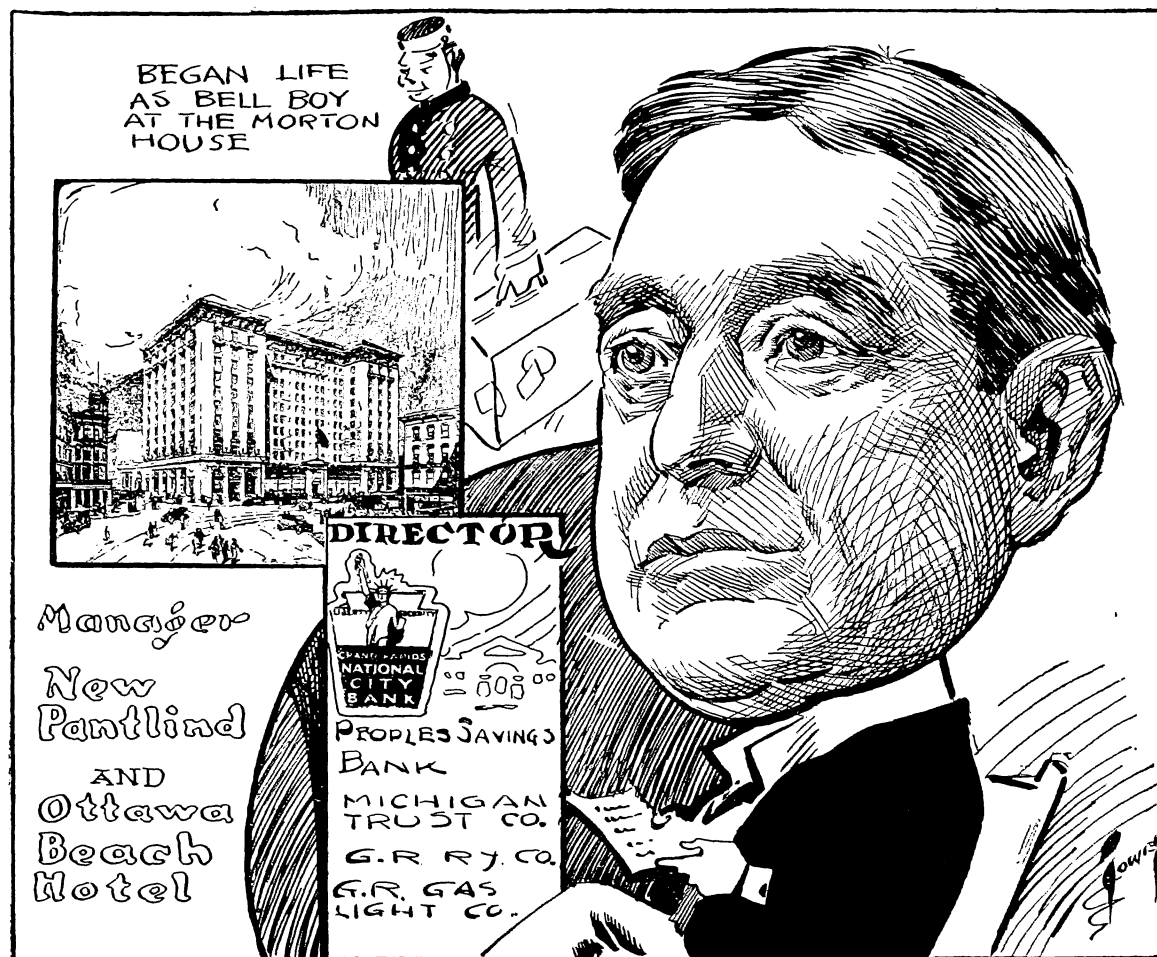


J. Boyd Pantlind

J. Boyd Pantlind, one of the best known hotelmen in the country, began as bell-boy and general utility worker in the Morton House in 1873, when his uncle was manager. He was advanced to clerk and after he had learned the business thoroughly was made manager, when his uncle withdrew. Later he obtained control of the old Sweet's hotel, Pearl street and Monroe avenue, and after that Hotel Ottawa at Ottawa Beach.

Mr. Pantlind has always held the leading place as hotelman in Grand Rapids since he obtained control of the Morton House. The elaborate new Pantlind now rapidly reaching completion, will be his greatest achievement yet, and clinches his position as one of the most progressive hotelmen in the country.

In addition to his hotel interests Mr. Pantlind has found time to lend his abilities to other enterprises. He is a director in the following institutions: Grand Rapids National City Bank; People's Savings Bank; Michigan Trust Company; Grand Rapids Street Railway, and the Grand Rapids Gas Light Company.

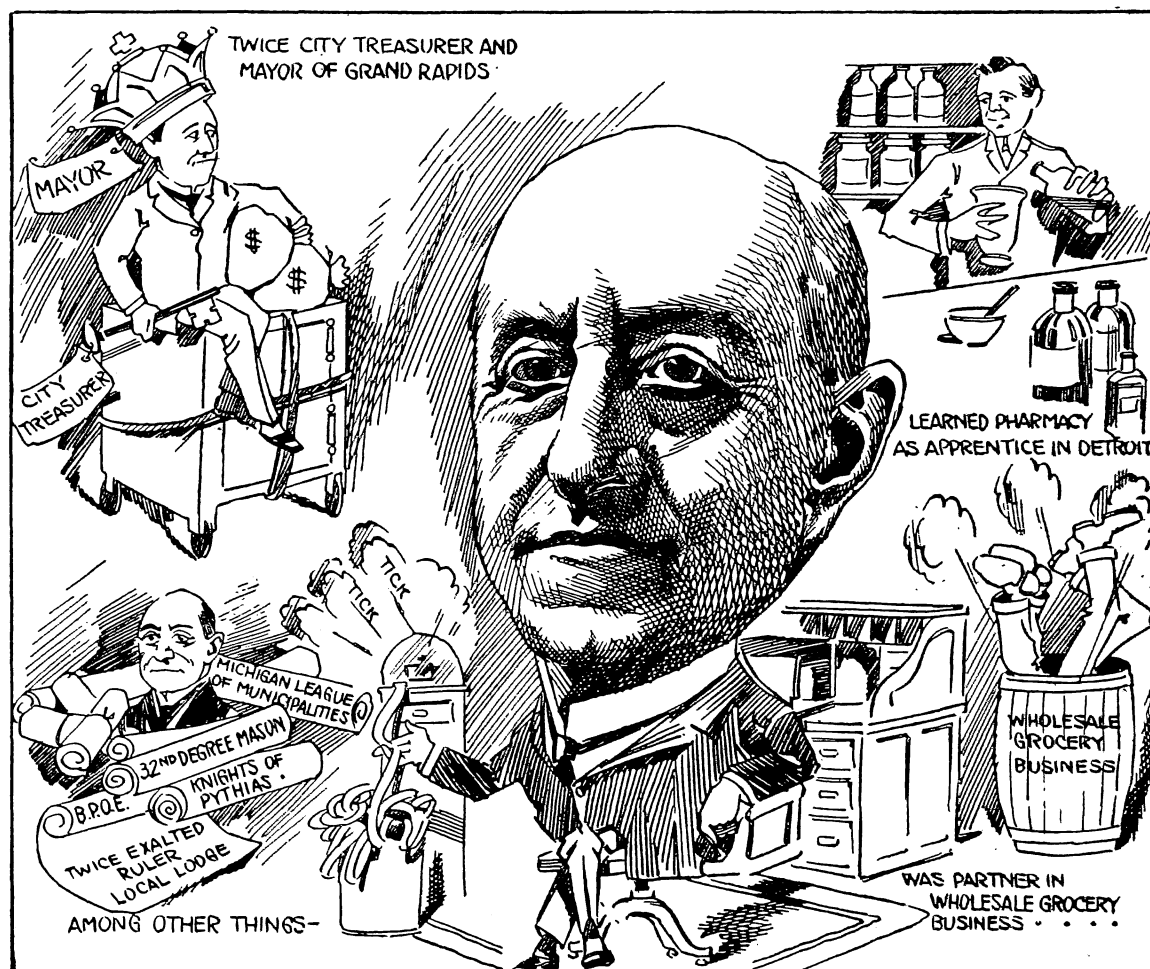


George Russell Perry

George Russell Perry, merchandise broker, ex-city treasurer and ex-mayor, was born in Bridgeport, Conn., Jan. 30, 1849. He came of New England stock and many of his ancestors played prominent part in the Revolutionary war. Mr. Perry was taken to Detroit at an early age and attended school there while his father built up a large retail business. After leaving school he served an apprenticeship at pharmacy and came to Grand Rapids shortly afterward.

Mr. Perry was manager of a drug store here when opportunity called him to Chicago. After two years in the same calling there he returned to Grand Rapids to enter the wholesale grocer business. He became a partner in the firm of Hawkins & Perry in 1883 but again changed his vocation and in 1891 entered the brokerage business.

Always active in city government, Mr. Perry was twice city treasurer beginning his first term in 1886. In 1898 he was elected mayor. He is a 32nd degree Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and was three times elected exalted ruler of the local lodge of Elks. He is given a large share of credit for the organization of the local lodge. He is also an ex-president of the Michigan League of Municipalities.

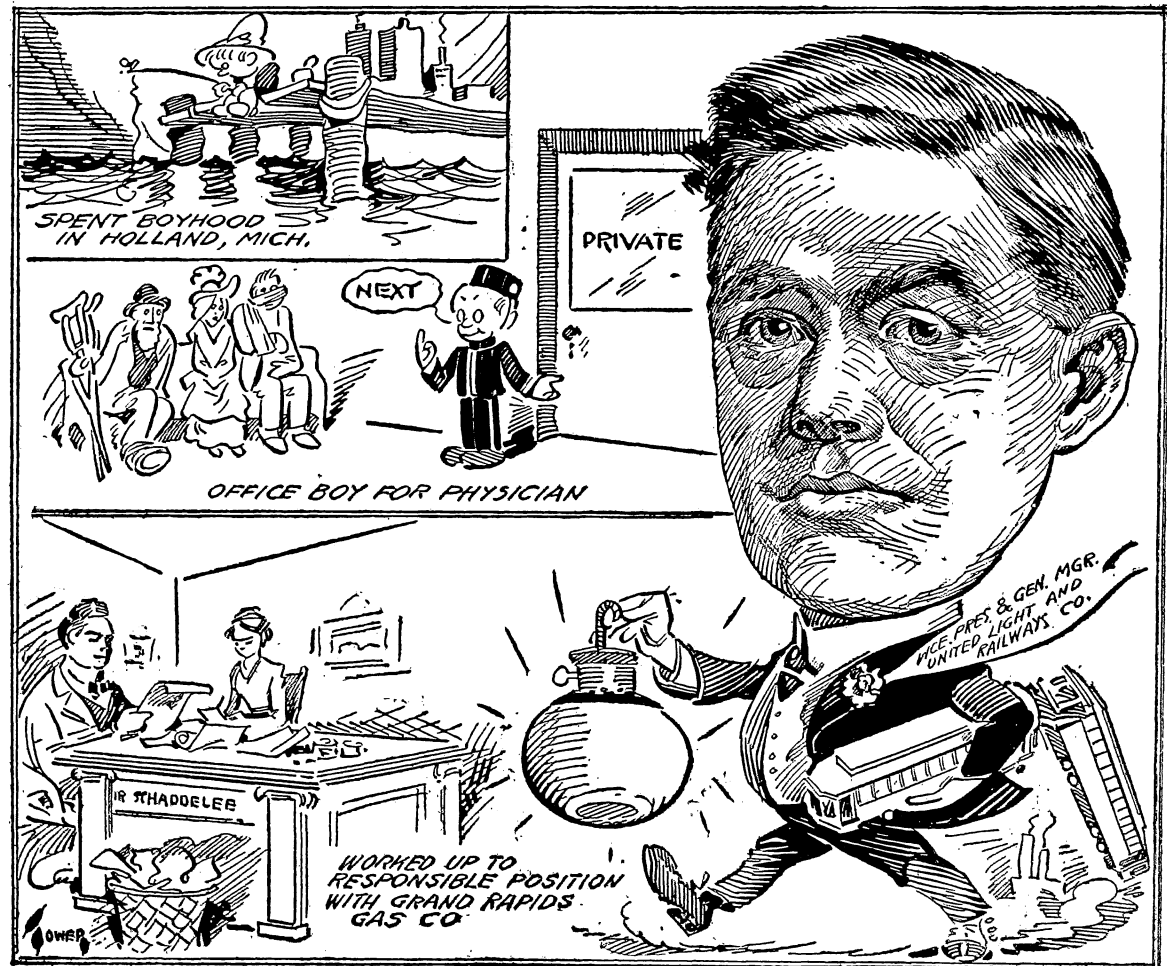


Richard Schaddelee

Twenty-six years ago Richard Schaddelee was a fourteen year old Holland boy, newly arrived in this country, without knowledge of the American language or customs. Today he is vice-president and general manager of the United Light & Railways company, a position that gives him national prominence in public utility and financial circles. He is also president of the Grand Rapids, Grand Haven & Muskegon railway company. He has risen steadily, step by step, through his own efforts.

Mr. Schaddelee's parents went to Holland, Michigan, after their arrival here and Mr. Schaddelee remained there six months. He then came to Grand Rapids and obtained employment in the Widdi-comb furniture factory. His next position was that of office boy and driver for Dr. Louis Barth. From this position he went to work as collector and meter reader for the Grand Rapids Gas Light company. He was with this company ten years, progressing gradually, and he held a responsible position when he left to become vice-president and general manager of the Albion Gas company.

He left Grand Rapids to go to Albion in 1902. In 1905 he returned to become vice-president and general manager of the Child-Hulswit and Company. When the United Light & Railways company was organized in 1910 he became its vice-president and general manager.

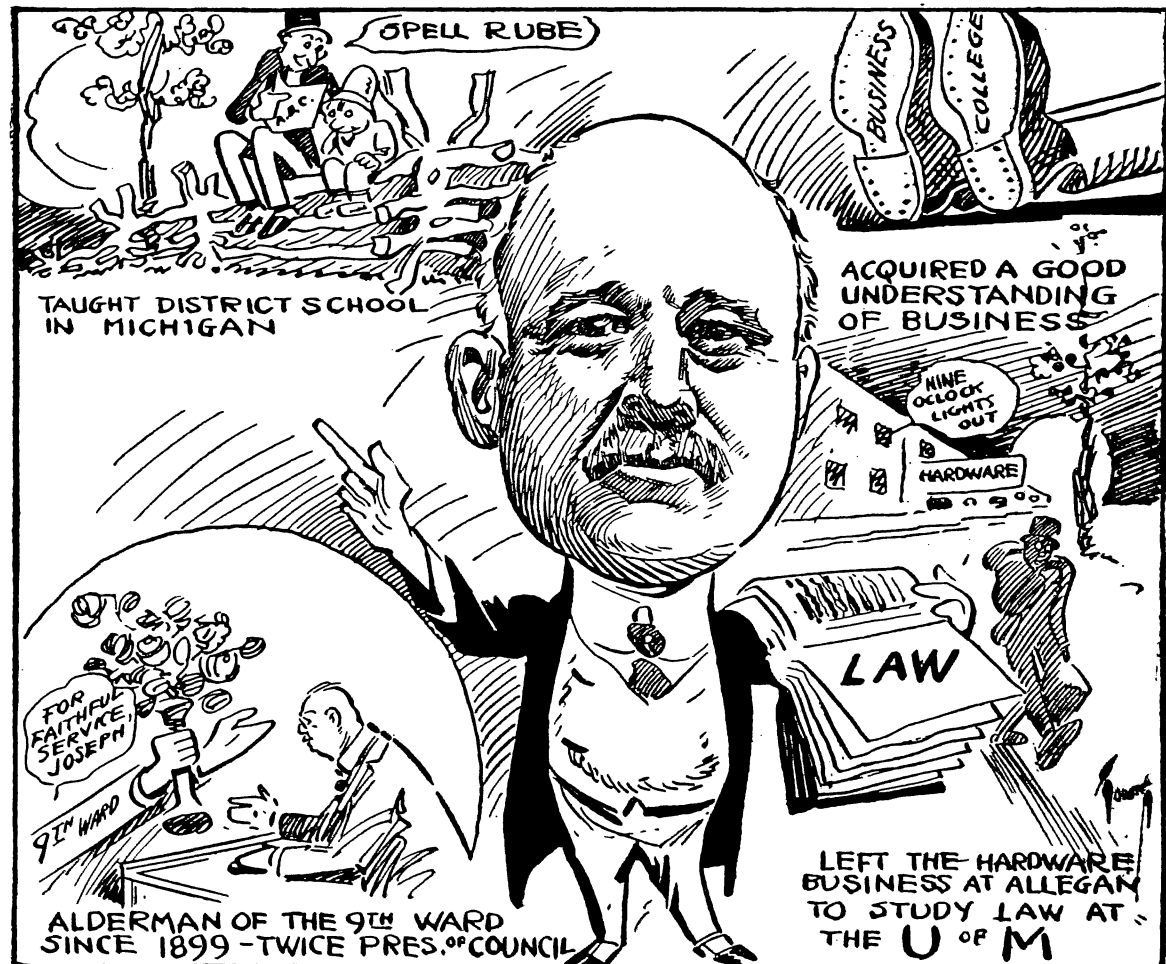


Joseph Renihan

Joseph Renihan in addition to being one of the best known men in the city government and one of the most substantial lawyers of the city, is also an active business man. He began his career as a school teacher, abandoned that profession for business, and later left that for the law.

Mr. Renihan was born in Walker township, Kent county. He was educated in district schools of Walker township and two years in the local high school. He then became a district school teacher for one year. Dropping this he took a business course graduating in 1883. For three years he was a bookkeeper, cashier and office manager at Allegan, then entered the hardware business there. He was successful in this enterprise and retaining his interest in it he entered the Michigan University to study law. He graduated in 1893.

After leaving the university, Mr. Renihan sold out his hardware business and returned to Grand Rapids. Since then he has built up a large law practice. He has been 9th ward alderman for 15 years, been president of the council twice, chairman of the board of supervisors and as a member of the committee on ways and means has had charge of all the large financial transactions of the city for the past six years.

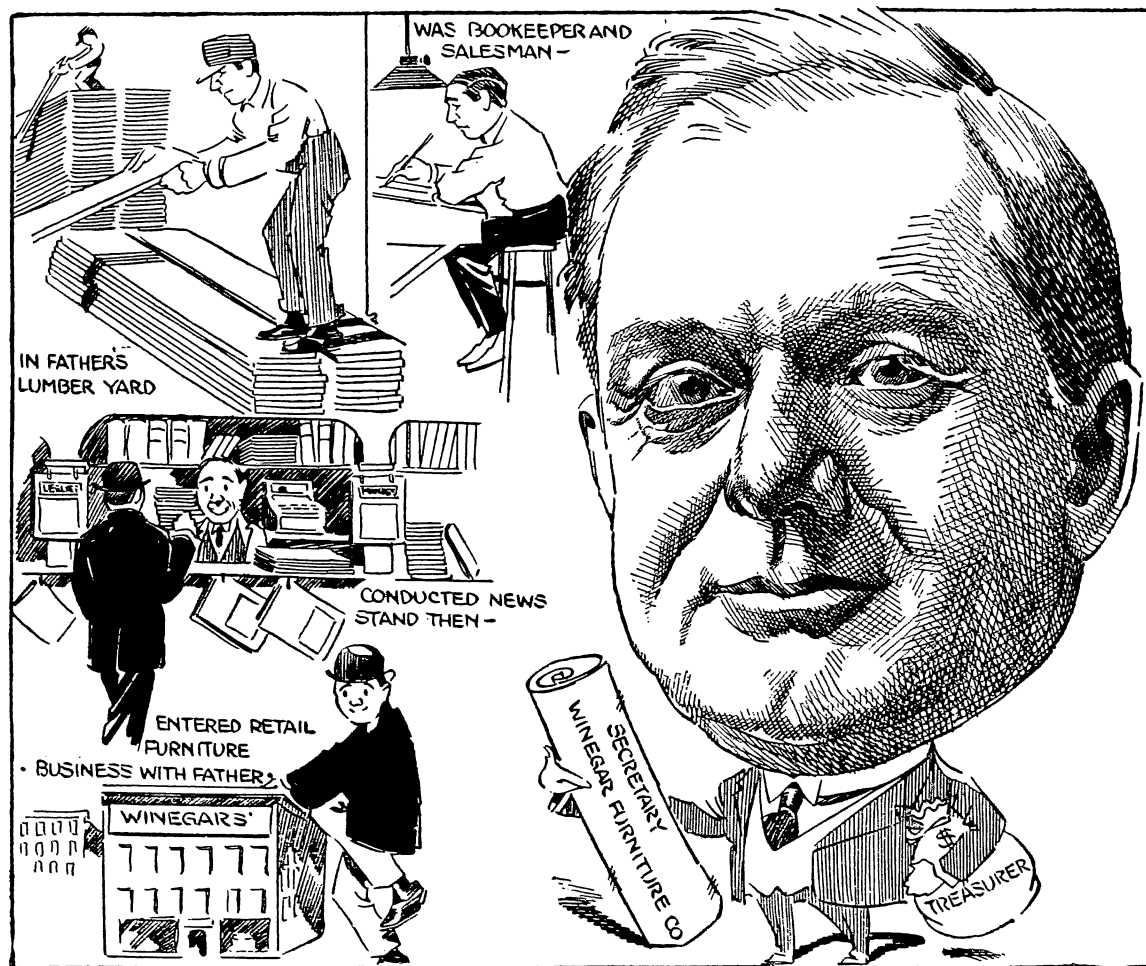


Frank B. Winegar

Frank B. Winegar, secretary and treasurer of the Winegar Furniture company, was born at Grass Lake, Jackson county, Michigan, May 8, 1861. He has been connected with the retail furniture business for the past 29 years and has seen and helped the Winegar furniture store grow from its modest beginning on Canal street to its present place, Division avenue and Cherry street, as one of the foremost home-outfitting establishments in the state.

Mr. Winegar received his first schooling in Grass Lake and came to Grand Rapids when he was 10 years old. He attended public schools and business college here and then became bookkeeper for his father who was in the lumber business, with offices on Campau Square. In 1875 Mr. Winegar went to Muncie, Ind. with his father and while there was a lumber salesman. After that he ran a general store in a lumber camp six miles west of Sand Lake, returning to Grand Rapids later.

His next occupation was conducting a news-stand in the Porter Block and from this he went into the retail furniture business which his father established on Canal street. The enterprise was incorporated Jan. 8, 1902. Mr. Winegar was made an officer at that time. He is a Shriner, an Elk, an Odd Fellow and an Eagle.

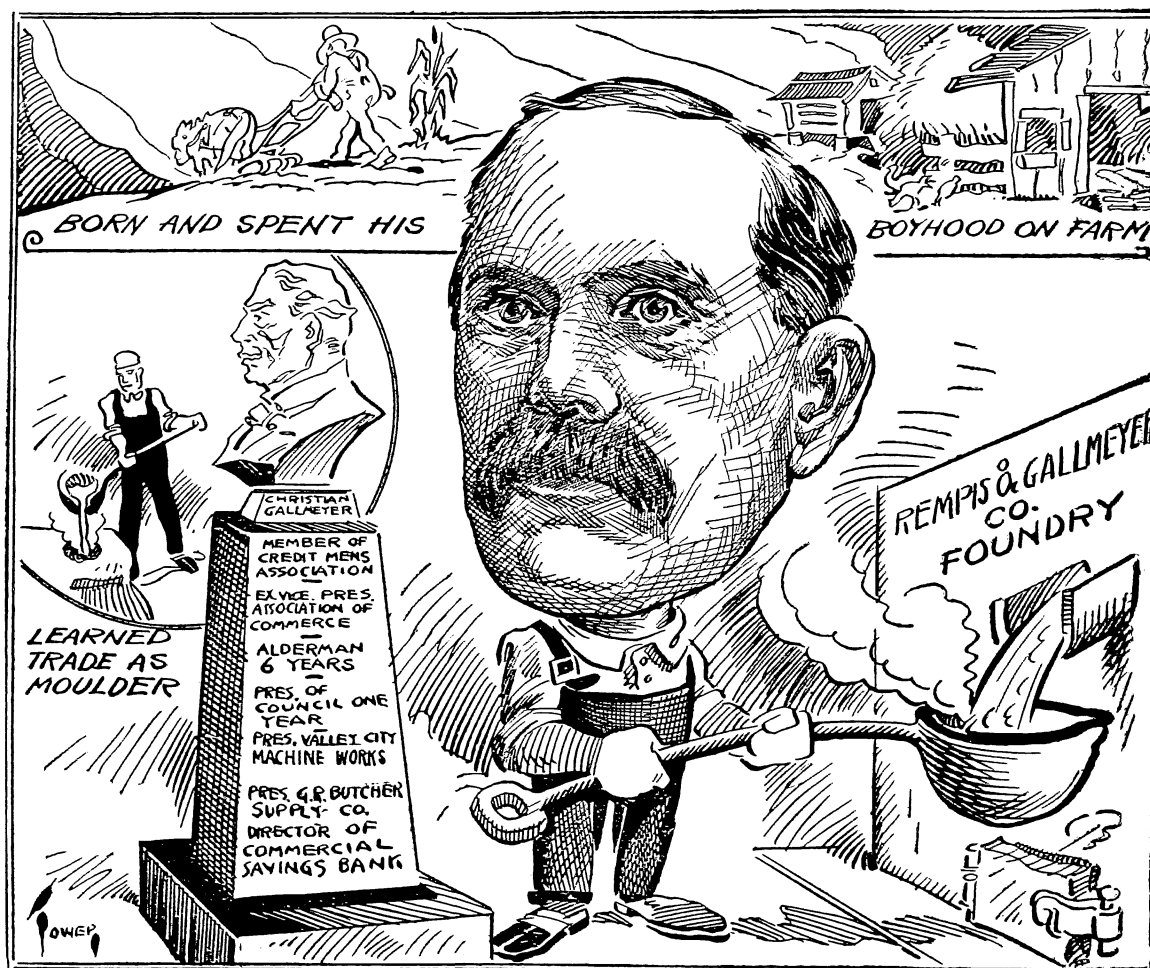


Christian Gallmeyer

Christian Gallmeyer came to Grand Rapids as a molder looking for work in 1877. Today he is secretary and treasurer of the Rempis & Gallmeyer Foundry. He is president of the Valley City Machine Works; president of the Grand Rapids Butchers' Supply company; vice-president of the Bixby Office Supply company and director of the Commercial Savings bank. He is also president of the Credit Men's Association. He has been vice-president and director of the Association of Commerce and was alderman for six years during that time attaining presidency of the council and chairmanship of the ways and means committee.

Mr. Gallmeyer was born October 4, 1850 on a farm in Indiana. He remained there until 18 years old, attending country school and working on the farm the remainder of his time. He then went to Fort Wayne, Ind., where he learned his trade as a molder. He came to Grand Rapids remaining here one winter when he went to Grand Haven. He was foreman of a shop there one year then became a partner in the Bryce-Bloecker & Company foundry.

After 11 years in Grand Haven he sold out and returned to Grand Rapids, buying the Moulton interests in the Moulton & Rempis foundry and organizing the Rempis & Gallmeyer company.



Raymond M. Ferguson

Raymond M. Ferguson, acting city attorney, has a splendid record of 20 years' service as an attorney in Grand Rapids, 10 of which have been spent in the service of the city in the city attorney's office.

He was born in Chicago, July 14, 1871, but came to Middleville a short time later with his parents, where he attended school and worked in the fields during the summer.

Following his graduation from high school he went to the University of Michigan for six years, graduating with B. L. and L. L. D. degrees.

From the college he came to Grand Rapids and after 10 years of private service before the bar, was appointed assistant city attorney. Since accepting this office he has tried some of the city's largest cases and was responsible for its victory in the tail-race case of Butterworth & Lowe against Carpenter & Anderson, involving the sum of \$450,000, the illness of Moses Taggart, city attorney, gave him the position of acting city attorney and he was elected to succeed Mr. Taggart, at the April election, 1914.



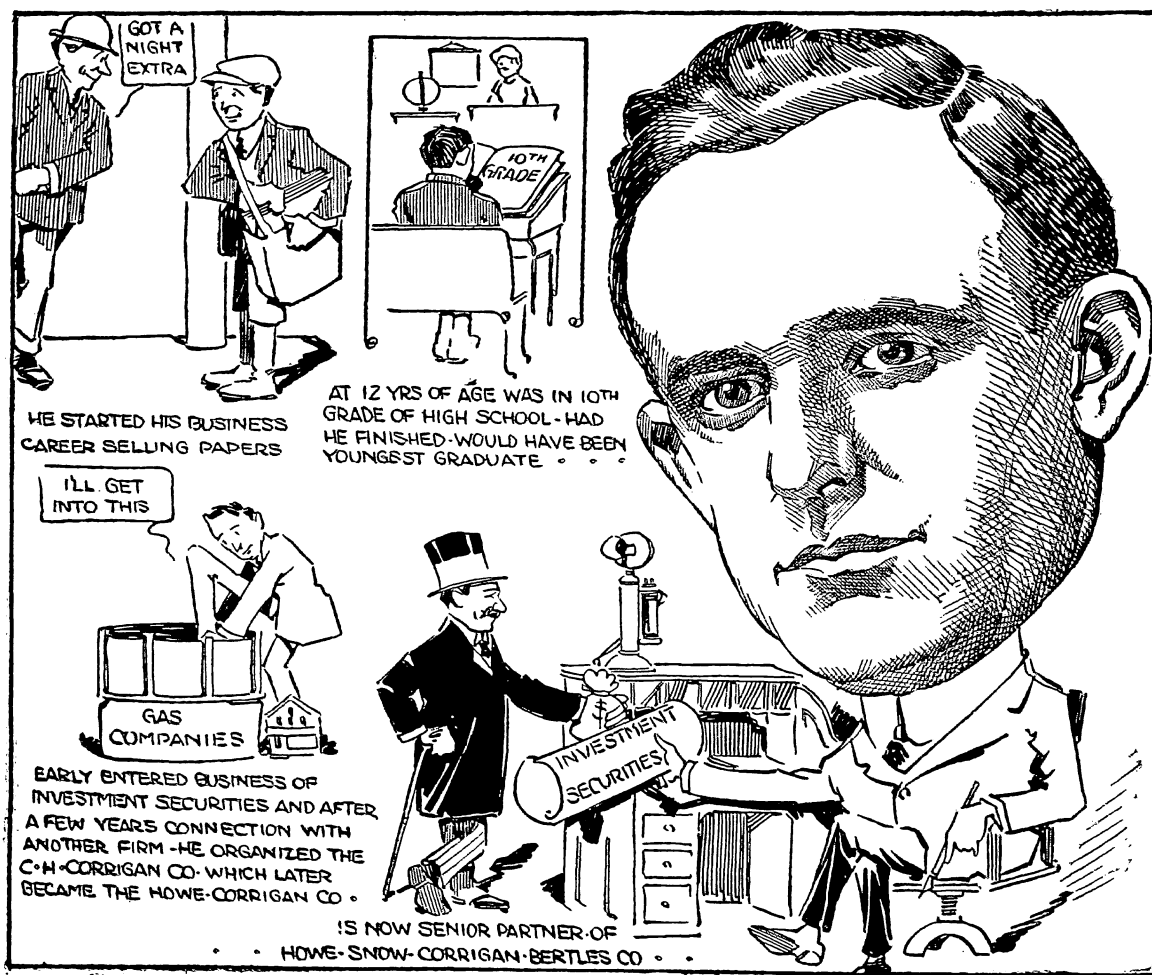
Claude H. Corrigan

Claude H. Corrigan, head of the firm of Howe, Snow, Corrigan and Bertles, dealers in all kinds of investment securities, and also president of two gas properties, started his business career selling newspapers. A streak of mathematical genius, ability to read human nature and a large amount of common sense enabled him to reach his present position with amazing swiftness.

Mr. Corrigan was born in Grand Rapids. He was educated in the public schools progressing so rapidly that he was in the tenth grade of high school at 12 years of age. He would have been the youngest high school graduate in Grand Rapids if he had finished, but he was compelled to abandon his studies at this age and go to work.

His first regular position was that of office boy for the Superior Charcoal Iron company. He graduated from this into the statistical department but the game of finance called to him early and he entered the employ of the Child-Hulswit Company. He remained here three or four years then organized the C. H. Corrigan Co. A few years later the company became the Howe-Corrigan Company and in January 1914 was again re-organized to take in Mr. Snow and Mr. Bertles.

Mr. Corrigan's chief activity aside from his business is Masonry. He is a 32nd degree Mason, a member of York lodge, DeWitt-Clinton Consistory, and Salidin Temple, Mystic Shrine.

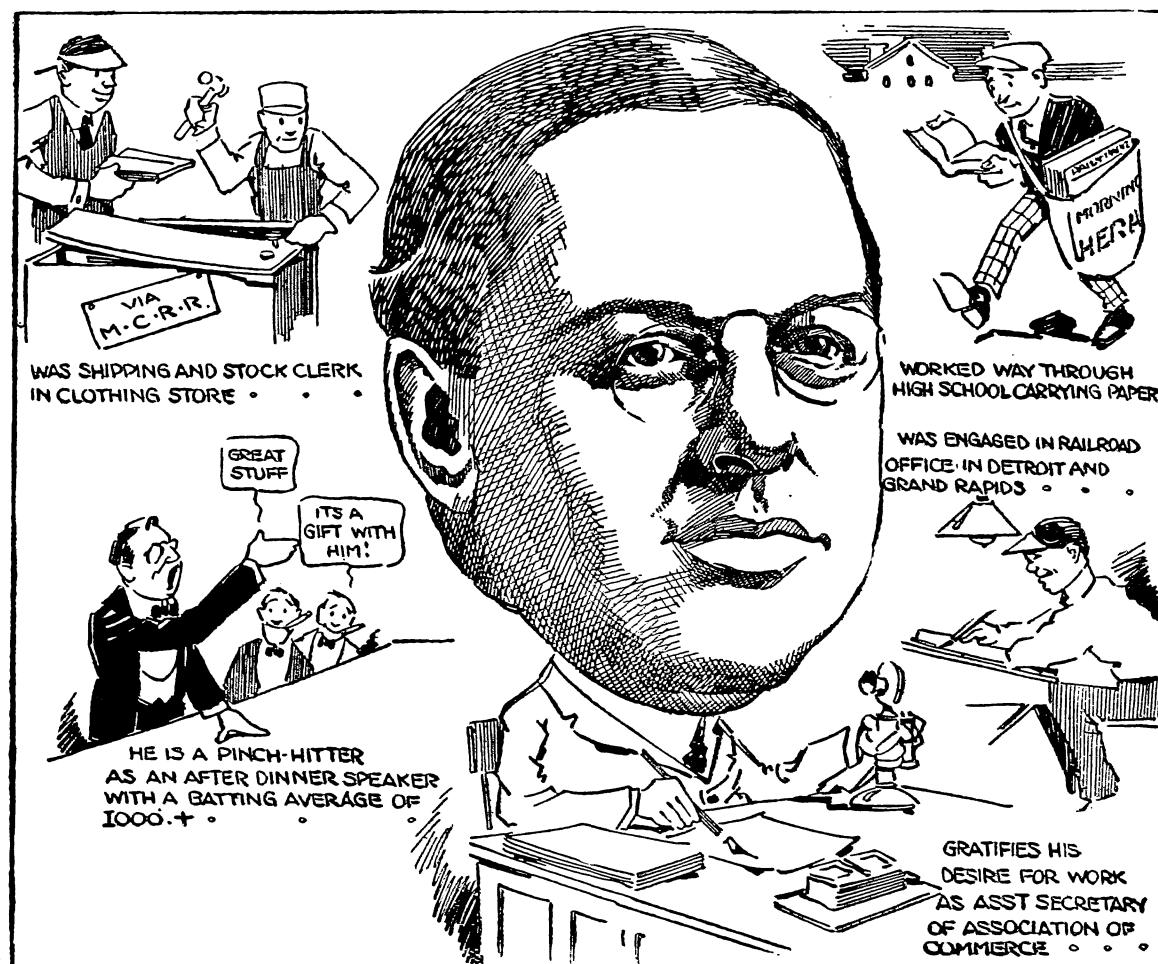


Lee H. Bierce

Lee H. Bierce, assistant secretary of the Association of Commerce, graduated from high school in Detroit one day and went to work the next. Since then he has been going continuously. He has been connected with the Association of Commerce for three years and had handled a vast amount of work in all departments of that active organization.

Mr. Bierce was born in Detroit Aug. 22, 1881. He was educated in the public schools of that city, working his way through high school by delivering newspapers. On graduation from high school, he went into the offices of the Pere Marquette railway Co., in Detroit, and remained in the office of the superintendent of transportation there until he came to Grand Rapids as assistant car distributor.

A short time after coming here he took charge of the shipping and stock of a local wholesale clothing house. He gave up this place to become secretary of the Merchants' and Business Men's Association of Winona, Minn. It was his experience there that fitted him for the position he now holds. Mr. Bierce's principal occupation aside from his work, is helping out program committees whose speakers have disappointed them.

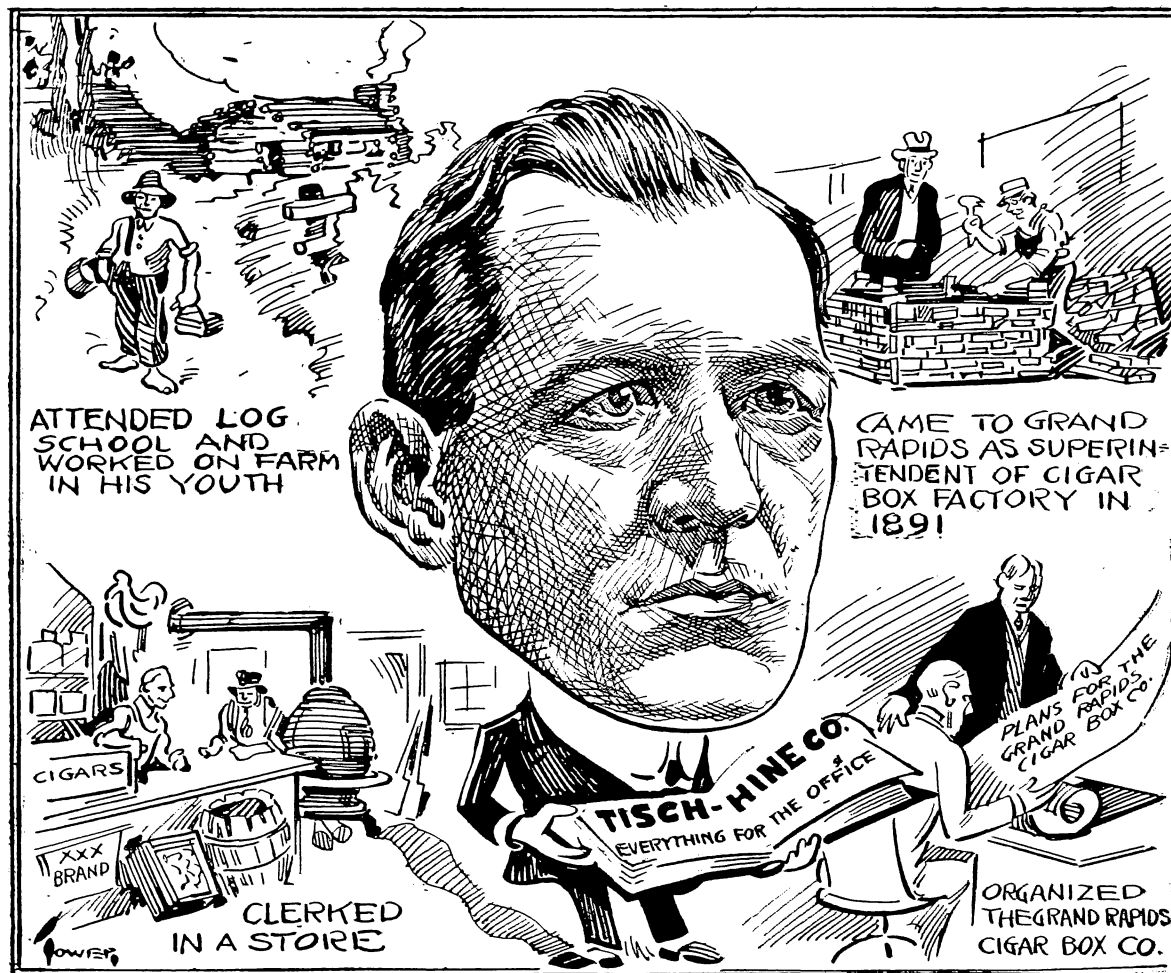


Julius E. Tisch

Julius Tisch, head of the Tisch-Hine Outfitting company and interested in several other thriving enterprises in this city, came here to establish a branch cigar box factory for a Wisconsin firm. After two years he had an opportunity to enter that business for himself and with his brother's assistance accepted the chance. In a modest way they organized the Grand Rapids Cigar Box company and despite a disastrous fire at a critical time, Mr. Tisch and his brother have succeeded in making it one of the prosperous industries of the city.

When the concern was firmly established Mr. Tisch left the management to a brother and entered the office outfitting business. His store on Pearl street is now one of the largest in Grand Rapids. It is still called the Tisch-Hine company although Mr. Hine is no longer connected with it. One of the most recent activities of the Tisch brothers is the J. & E. Tisch Company, dealers in auto accessories.

Julius Tisch was born at Mishicot, Manitowoc county, Wis., Feb. 26, 1868. His first education was received in a log school house; then a German parochial school and later the village school. Following this he clerked in a store and worked a 160 acre farm until he went to Milwaukee to attend school another year. He came to Grand Rapids in 1891 and has been a most energetic and active citizen.



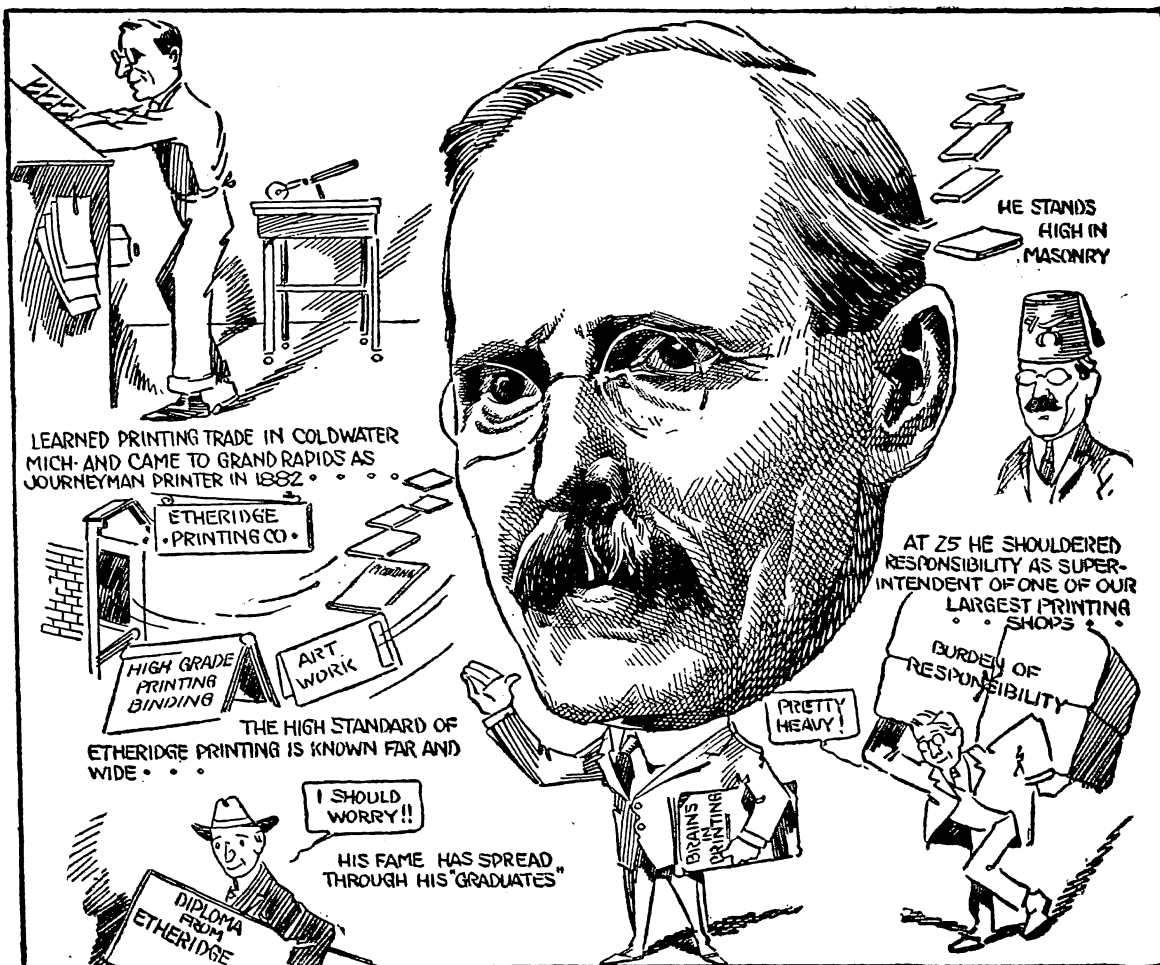
T. Spencer Etheridge

T. Spencer Etheridge, head of one of the most successful printing plants in Grand Rapids, is known all over Michigan through his "graduates." Because of the high standards set in his shop, the men he has trained have attained positions as experts in the printing art. For the same reason the Etheridge company has a sound reputation for careful, high grade work.

Mr. Etheridge was born in Coldwater, Mich., in 1861. He learned his trade in that town, starting at the bottom and mastering every branch thoroughly. He came to Grand Rapids in 1882 as a journeyman printer and after six years service here became superintendent of one of the largest shops in the city. He spent several years in Muskegon and Port Huron returning here in 1896. For the ensuing 14 years, except for a year in Kansas City, he had charge of a plant here.

In 1904 Mr. Etheridge organized the Etheridge Printing company. He started in on a small scale having but two presses then. His enterprise prospered and today he has a dozen. All kinds of printing is done in his plant, which includes an art department and a bindery.

Mr. Etheridge's popularity is indicated by the fact that he is an alderman, having been elected to represent the wealthiest ward in the city—the Second—in April 1914.

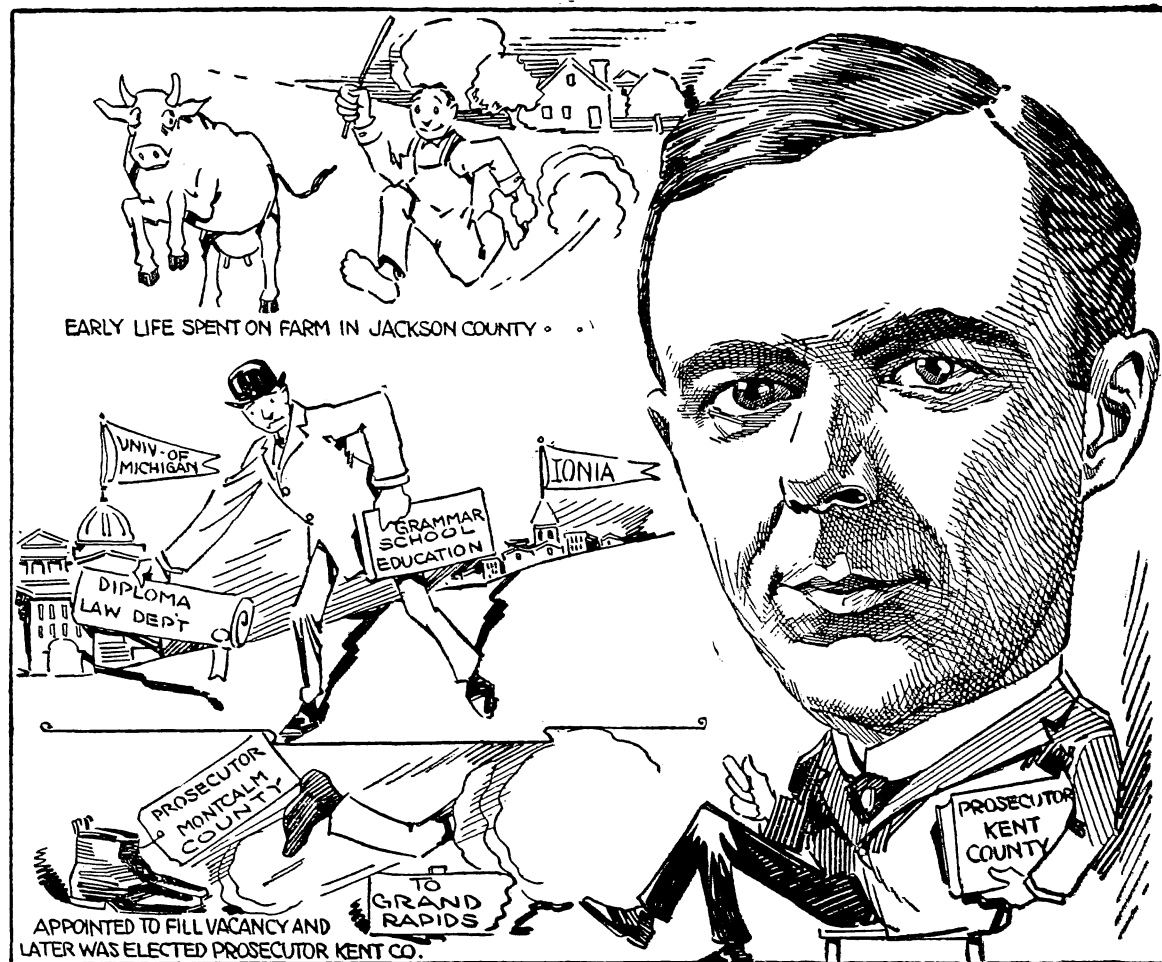


Earl F. Phelps

Earl F. Phelps, prosecuting attorney of Kent county, spent his boyhood on a farm in Michigan. He received his legal education in the University of Michigan and came after a few years, to Grand Rapids to practice his profession. He became prosecuting attorney first by appointment, discharging the duties of his office so well that he was re-elected to the office when his appointive term expired in the fall of 1913.

Mr. Phelps was born Oct. 4th, 1875, in Triangle, New York. When he was 7 years of age his parents decided to move to Michigan and the family settled on a farm near Grass Lake, Jackson county. Three years later his family moved to Ionia and there he received his grammar school education. He graduated from the university in 1899. Following his graduation he went to Howard City, Montcalm county, where he practiced law and was elected prosecuting attorney of Montcalm county.

After coming to this city he was associated with Dunham & Dunham and was engaged in private practice when William B. Brown was advanced to the circuit judgeship, leaving the office of prosecuting attorney vacant. Mr. Phelps accepted the appointment. He is considered one of the most capable lawyers in the state.

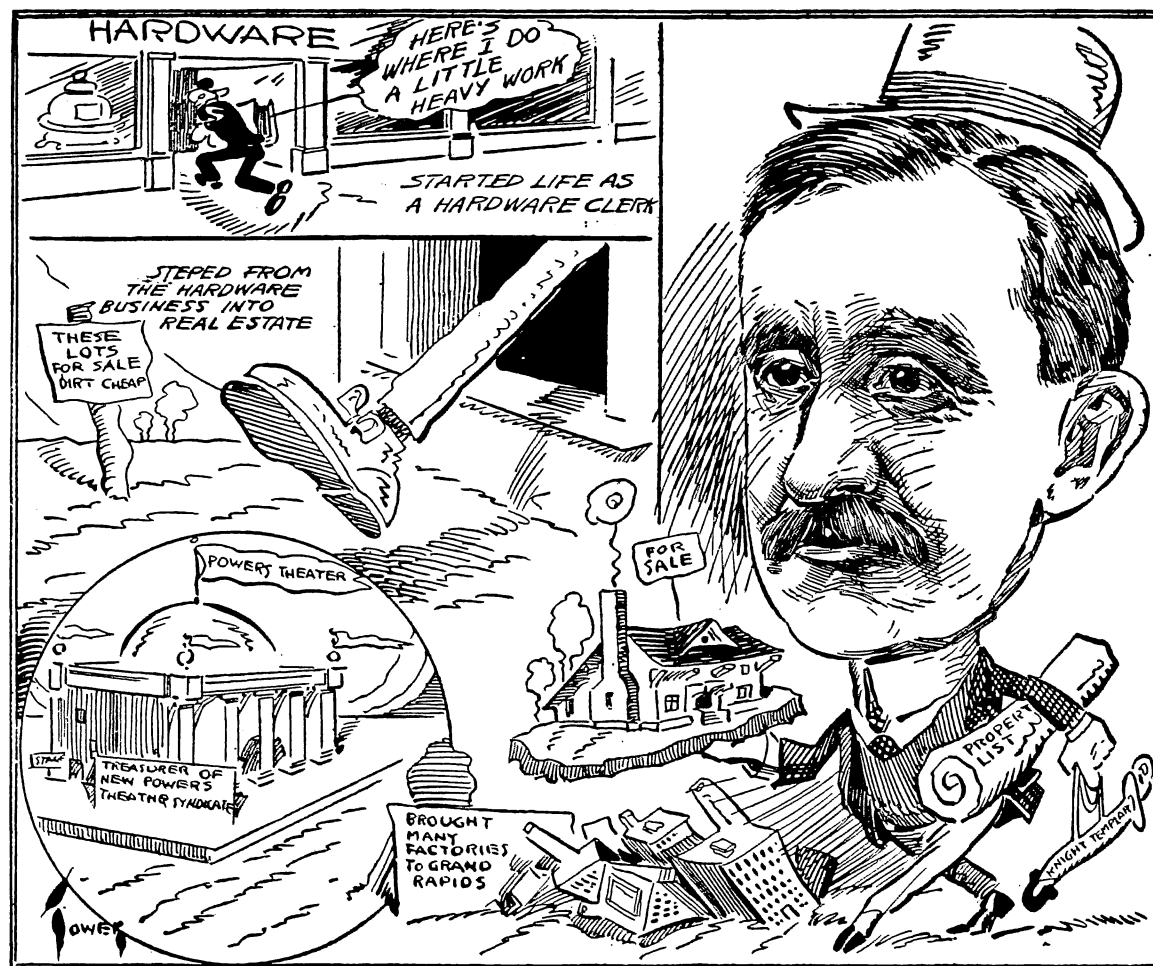


William H. Gilbert

William H. Gilbert, prominent real estate operator, has done much for the up-building of Grand Rapids and has assisted in the erection of many of the handsome residences, in addition to furnishing the impetus for many of the modern business structures of the city. His latest constructive activity is the participation in the reconstruction of the Powers theater building, which, when completed, will be one of the most handsome theaters in the middle west.

Mr. Gilbert came to Grand Rapids in 1888 after his education was completed. His first business experience was as book-keeper for a hardware concern but he soon left office work for real estate. He has always been interested along industrial lines and is chairman of the industrial committee of the Association of Commerce. He was also a life director of the Board of Trade. One of the principal results of his industrial interest was the bringing of the American Box Board company, of which he is now secretary, to this city.

In addition to being secretary of the American Box Board company and treasurer of the Powers theater syndicate, Mr. Gilbert is secretary of the Swiss-American Mills and a director in the Grand Rapids Savings bank. He is a 32nd degree Mason and a Knight Templar.



C. E. Tarte

C. E. Tarte, general manger of the Citizens Telephone company, began at the bottom of the ladder in the telephone business and has learned it step by step. He has worked at every branch of the constructive part of telephone work and is thoroughly conversant with the practical end of the business.

Mr. Tarte is a lifelong resident of western Michigan having been born in Muskegon, October 31, 1869. He attended schools there at one time working as messenger for the Western Union. During three of his years at high school he worked as night operator for the Michigan Telephone and Telegraph company. A year after leaving school he became a general utility man with the principal duties of installing telephones, working as a lineman, collecting and inspecting.

In 1889 Mr. Tarte came to Grand Rapids and assisted in the moving of the telephone office from Canal street to the Blodgett building. He remained here as a switchboard installer, becoming a wire chief. In February, 1892, he went to St. Paul, Minn., where he took charge of a switchboard. From there he went to Detroit as traffic manager returning here in September 1898. A year later he was made local manager and later general manager. Under his administration the Citizens company has been one of the big factors in the growth of Greater Grand Rapids.



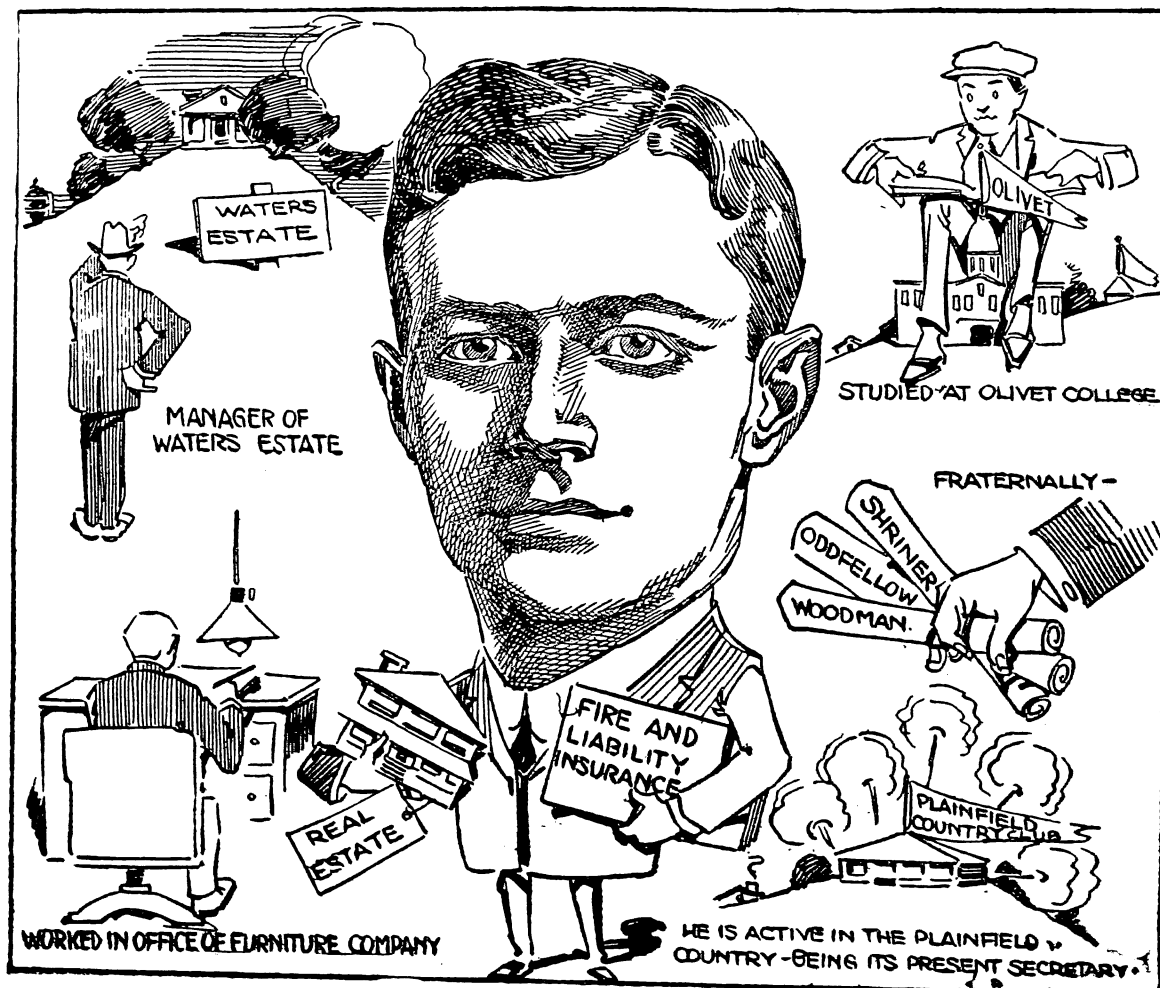
Martin T. Vanden Bosch

Martin T. Vanden Bosch, well known real estate man of Grand Rapids, spends most of his time developing and building up property in this city that has been allowed to run down through mismanagement or some other reason. The Hermitage property is one of the several pieces of ground he has restored to the city in their best conditions of development. At the same time he manages the Waters estate and finds time to write fire and liability insurance.

Born on a farm in Ottawa county, Michigan, on October 31, 1878, Mr. Vanden Bosch moved to Grand Haven, Michigan at the age of four years with his parents. After finishing public schools he attended and graduated from high school. He then went to Olivet college, taking a business course in a Grand Rapids school after he finished.

His first position was at office work for a local furniture factory. He left this company to work in the office of a piano case company. He left this position to enter the employ of Dudley E. Waters, becoming his private secretary. About ten years ago he branched out into the real estate and insurance business.

Mr. Vanden Bosch is a Shriner, an Odd Fellow and a Modern Woodman. He is also secretary of the Plainfield country club and the Grand Rapids Motor Realty company.

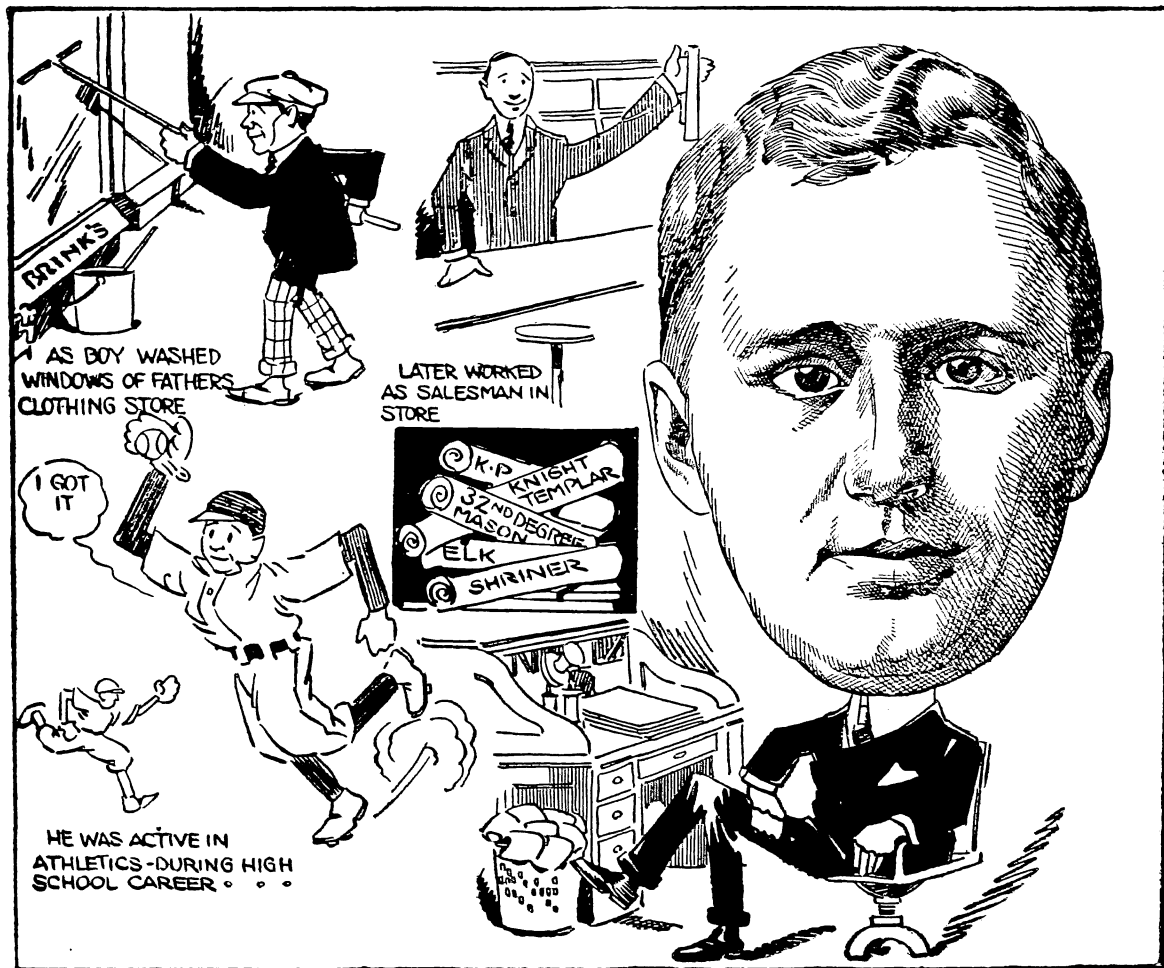


Howard Brink

Howard Brink, one of the younger business men of Grand Rapids, conducts one of the most aggressive business houses in this city and, without injury to it, is as active socially as any society man with nothing else to do. The Dick Brink company is headquarters for men who want expert assistance in selecting correct up-to-date apparel with assurance of honest value.

Mr. Brink's first business experience was in washing the windows of the store he now manages, when his father was at the head of it. He was born in this city Nov. 11, 1890, and was educated in public schools here. While he attended high school he was a hard hitting outfielder on the baseball team that held the state championship for three years. He was also a football player, but while he was taking a prominent part in athletics, he was also working odd hours and Saturdays as salesman in the Brink store.

He was obliged to stop school in his junior year to take over the management of the store. That was in 1908 and he has been at the head of it since. He is a 32nd degree Mason, Shriner, Knight Templar, Knight of Pythias and an Elk.

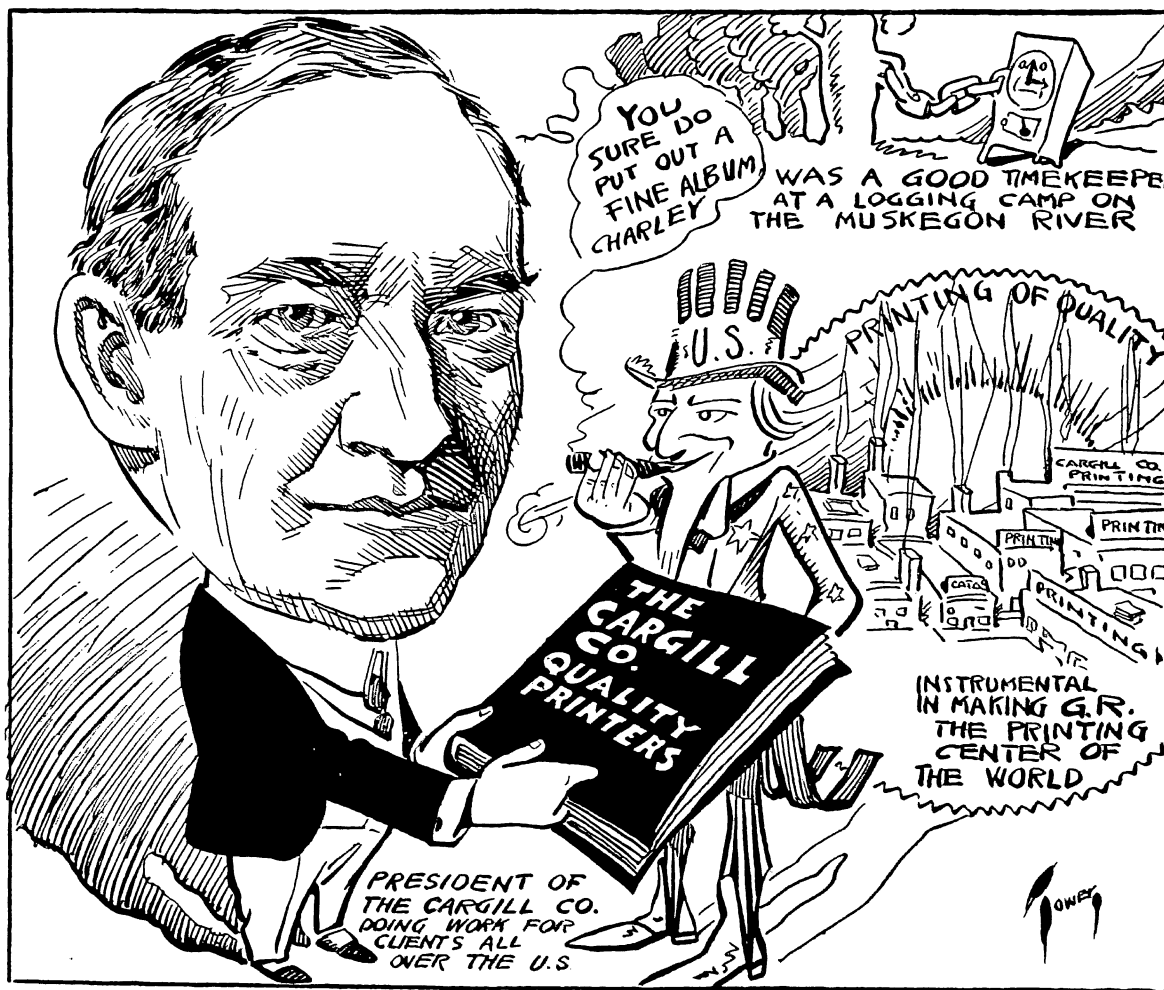


Charles C. Cargill

Charles C. Cargill, president of the Cargill Co., entered the printing industry, after maturity, as manger of the Grand Rapids Engraving company, then a small concern. Today the company of which he is head, has a world wide scope and there is no standard higher than the work it turns out. Through The Cargill company, and a few others, the name of Grand Rapids has been carried all over the globe as the source of the most expert work known to the printing and engraving arts.

Mr. Cargill was born in Grand Rapids, May 5, 1863. His first position was that of timekeeper in a logging camp on the Muskegon river. A few years later he became superintendent of the Quinnesec Logging company, at Iron Mountain, U. P., a company employing 400 men. From this position he returned to this city to become manager of the Grand Rapids Engraving company, That was in 1894 and from then on the company's progress, toward its place of today as The Cargill company, was steady. The present plant of the company on Wealthy street near Division avenue, is one of the most completely equipped in the country, was first occupied in February, 1904.

In addition to the printing industry Mr. Cargill has interested himself in the civic life of Grand Rapids and is an active member of the Association of Commerce. He is also a Knight Templar.

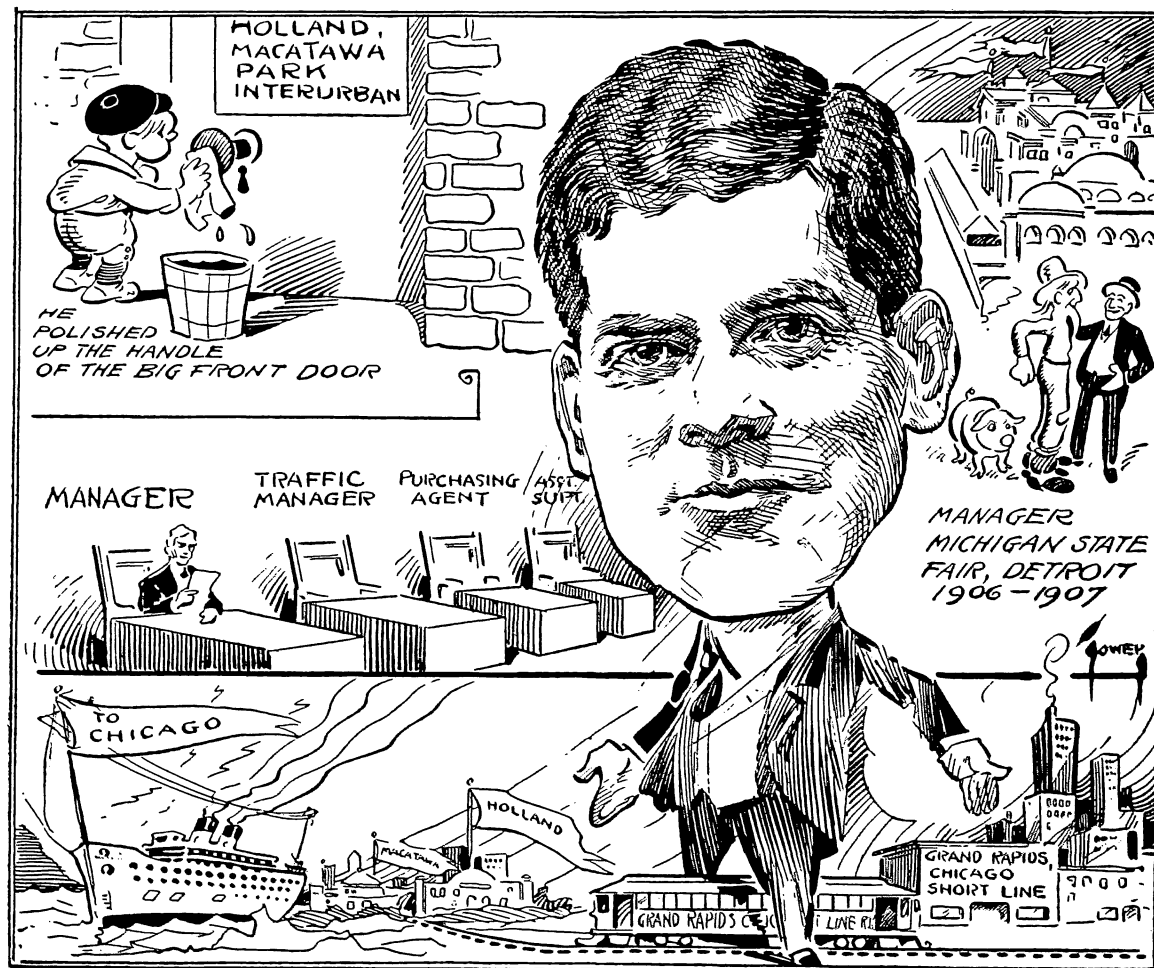


Charles A. Floyd

Charles A. Floyd, general manager of the Grand Rapids-Chicago Short Line, came to western Michigan when a youth. He entered the employ of the Holland Interurban line in 1900 when it was operated only from Holland to Macatawa Park. He was advanced steadily until finally when the company was reorganized in 1912 he was made general manager, and the direction of the road during all its rehabilitation and construction has been in his hands.

Born in Sheffield, Iowa in 1883, Mr. Floyd went from there to Sault Ste. Marie, where he remained 12 years. He worked in Chicago two years for the C. & N. W. and then moved to Holland. At the time the road was brought to Grand Rapids, Mr. Floyd arranged for extension of the route to Chicago through the Graham & Morton steamers, and the Holland interurban now carries thousands of persons and a great freight tonnage between this city and Chicago.

Mr. Floyd has served under three managements. He now makes his winter home in Grand Rapids, and his summer home at Macatawa Park. He is a Shriner Knight Templar and Knight of Pythias.

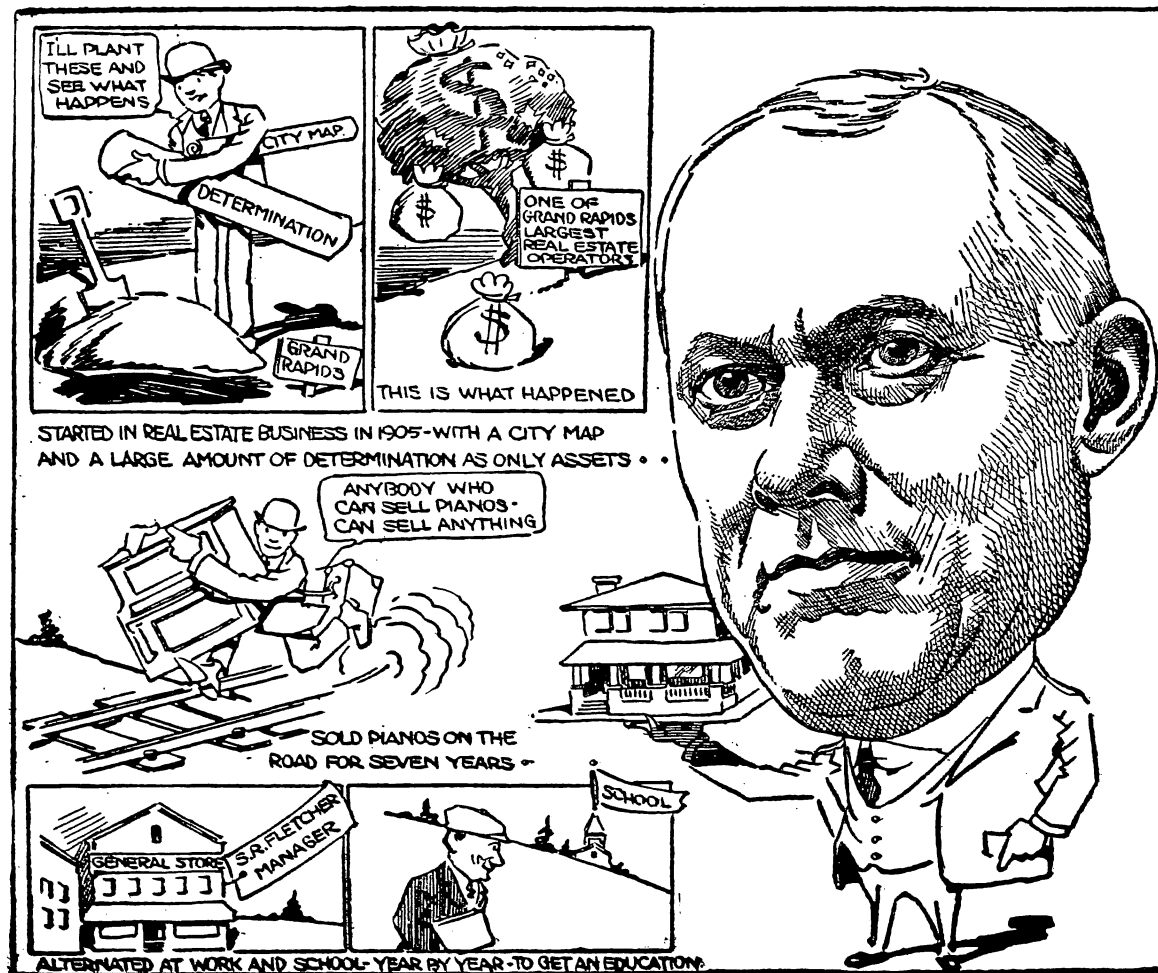


S. R. Fletcher

S. R. Fletcher started in the real estate business in Grand Rapids in January, 1905, with little capital but a large amount of energy and determination. His knowledge of Grand Rapids was contained in a city map which he carried in his pocket. He had had no real estate experience and was almost a stranger in the city. Today he is one of the best known operators in business and residence property in Grand Rapids.

When Mr. Fletcher interviewed real estate men here on the possibilities of the real estate business he was advised to stay out. When he is interviewed now Mr. Fletcher reverses this and encourages young men to get into the game. He believes there is room for others and is not afraid they will take business away from him. On the contrary he thinks the more real estate men there are the more business is created and he is willing to take the chance of getting his share.

Mr. Fletcher was born on a farm in Genessee county, August 24, 1867. He attended country schools and the Flint high school and at the age of 13 went to the upper peninsula. At 16 he was manager of a general store there. He remained in the north ten years, alternating his time there with terms at a Detroit high school. For a half dozen years he was foreman for a wholesale grocer house there, then became a salesman.



George P. Tilma

George P. Tilma, city comptroller, is a native of Holland, Mich. He was compelled to leave school at an early age after finishing the seventh grade in the grammar schools upon the death of his father, to support his mother and her four children. He is a self made man and has been very successful, being prominently mentioned as a mayoralty candidate before his withdrawal from the race in the spring of 1914.

He first worked on a farm, leaving to take a job as all around man in a coal and wood yard at the age of 15. After working one year in this business he went to work in a stone quarry. It was hard work for a lad of 16, but he endured it for several years and then took a job handling general merchandise.

A better offer at a livery firm induced him to leave, and after one year at this employment he entered a furniture factory in Holland, coming to Grand Rapids at the age of 20 to take a job in the Luce Furniture factory where he learned the carving trade.

He was elected alderman of the twelfth ward in 1906, and later served two terms as clerk of the supreme court. In 1908 he was elected comptroller of the city's currency and made such a splendid record that he has been re-elected three times and still holds the position.

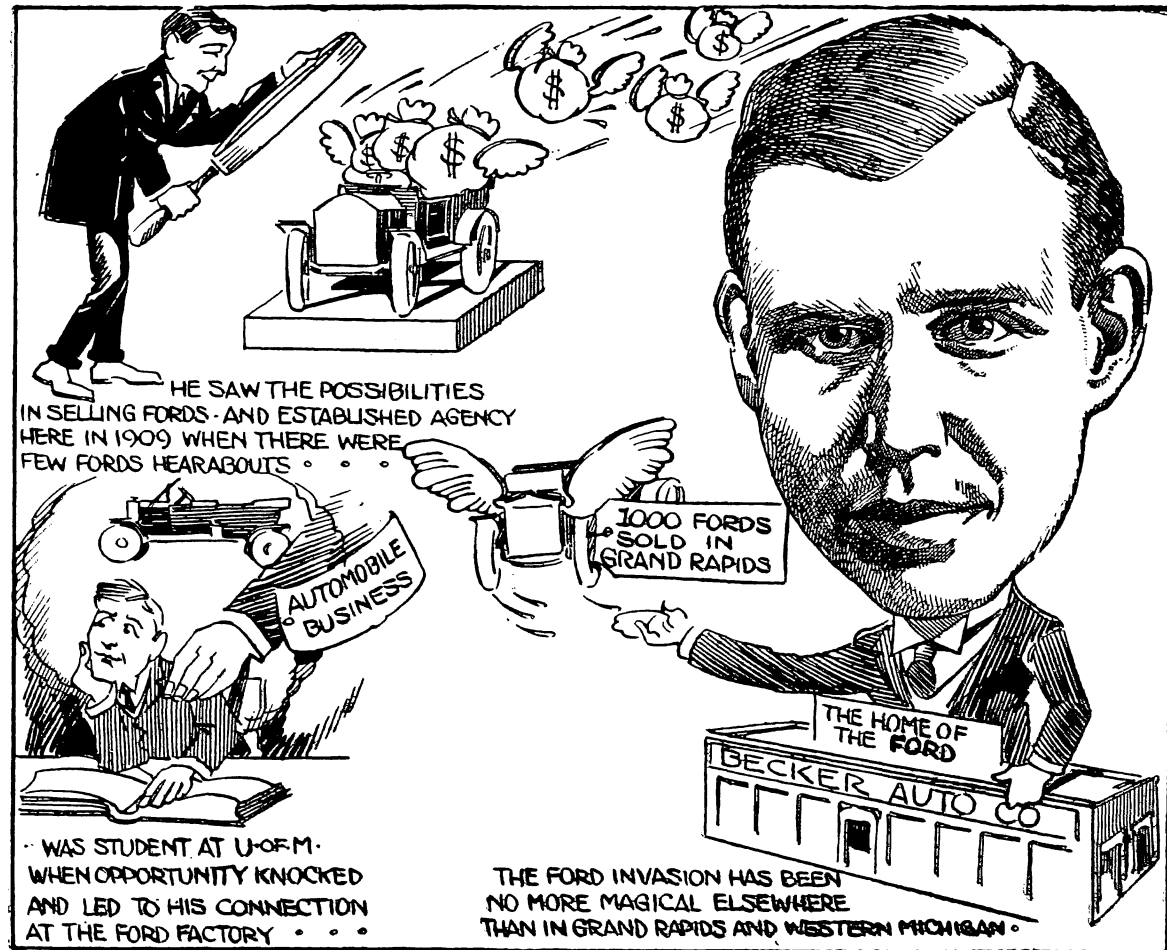


R. E. Becker

R. E. Becker, proprietor of the Becker Auto company, distributors for Ford Motor company in western Michigan, located in Grand Rapids October 1, 1909. At that time, there were but nine Fords in his field while at the present writing there are in excess of 3,500 in the same territory, probably 1,000 of them in Grand Rapids.

Mr. Becker was born in Fenton, Genesee county, Michigan, in 1886. He was educated in the public schools of that city and the University of Michigan. In 1907 he entered the claim department of the Ford Motor company at Detroit. After remaining in that position about two years, he took charge of the distribution of the Ford Motor company's product in western Michigan.

His first location in Grand Rapids was at 161-63 North Ottawa avenue. These quarters were soon outgrown and the business moved to the present location at Sheldon and Island streets as soon as the building was completed in the spring of 1911. This is one of the largest, if not the largest, garage in the state. It is being operated and maintained purely in the interest of Ford company.

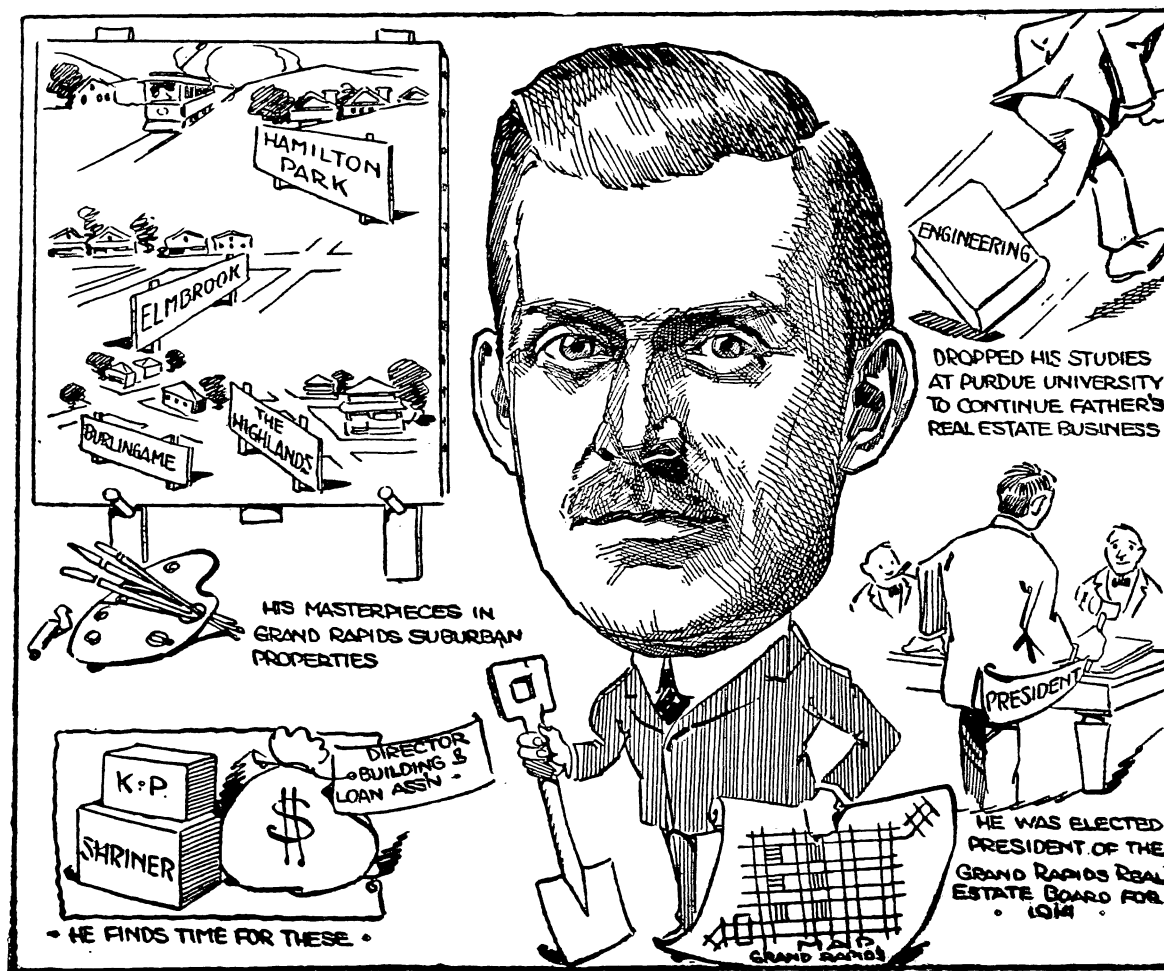


Leon T. Closterhouse

Leon T. Closterhouse, prominent real estate dealer, has done much in building up the suburbs of Grand Rapids. Hamilton Park, Elmbrook and Burlingame, three properties on the Holland Interurban, and the Highlands, across the river from North Park, are some of the additions he has successfully handled in conjunction with another local operator.

Mr. Closterhouse was elected president of the real estate board for 1914. He was born at Jenison, Kent county, October 21, 1882, and moved to Grand Rapids with his parents when he was a boy. He was educated in the public schools of the city and later went to Purdue University to take up engineering. He gave this up in his junior year to continue the business of his father who was a prominent real estate man here. He early became interested in suburban properties and enjoys a leading place in subdivision work.

Aside from his work Mr. Closterhouse has found time to become a 32nd degree Mason, Shriner, Knight of Pythias and a director of the Grand Rapids Mutual Building and Loan Association. He is an enthusiastic suburbanite and has a 50 acre place out Kalamazoo road.

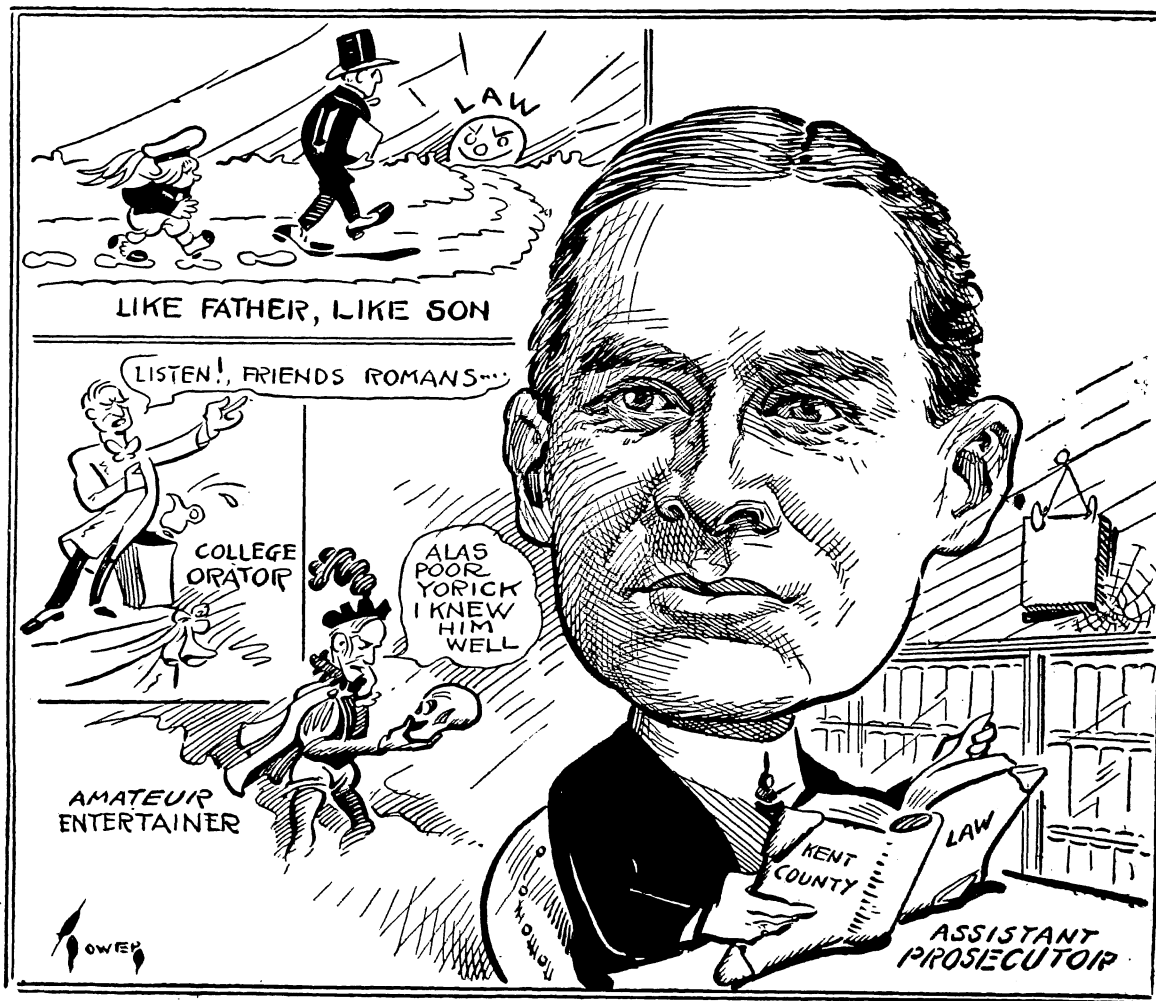


Elvert M. Davis

Elvert M. Davis, assistant prosecuting attorney of Kent county, became a lawyer only after overcoming a desire to be a druggist. His father, Judge Frank D. M. Davis is one of the best known attorneys in the state, has presided in the Ionia circuit for years, and his father-in-law, Judge Allen B. Morse, was a member of the state supreme court, hence the subject of this sketch seemed more or less destined for law.

Mr. Davis obtained his early education in Ionia where he graduated from high school. Following this he entered the literary department at Olivet college. It was there that he developed some oratorical ability. He won the Drury oratorical prize, and was prominent in the work of the Adelpic Literary Society in Olivet, and established a reputation as an amateur entertainer, and supplemented his income in efforts along that line.

After two years at Olivet Mr. Davis went to the Detroit College of Law. He received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from that college in 1899, and began practicing law in Ionia after graduation. For five years he was in business with A. A. Ellis and for eight years was associated with the late James Scully under the firm name of Scully & Davis. He came to Grand Rapids in September 1911, and formed a partnership with Hon. Wm. E. Grove which continued until January 1, 1913, when he became assistant prosecuting attorney.

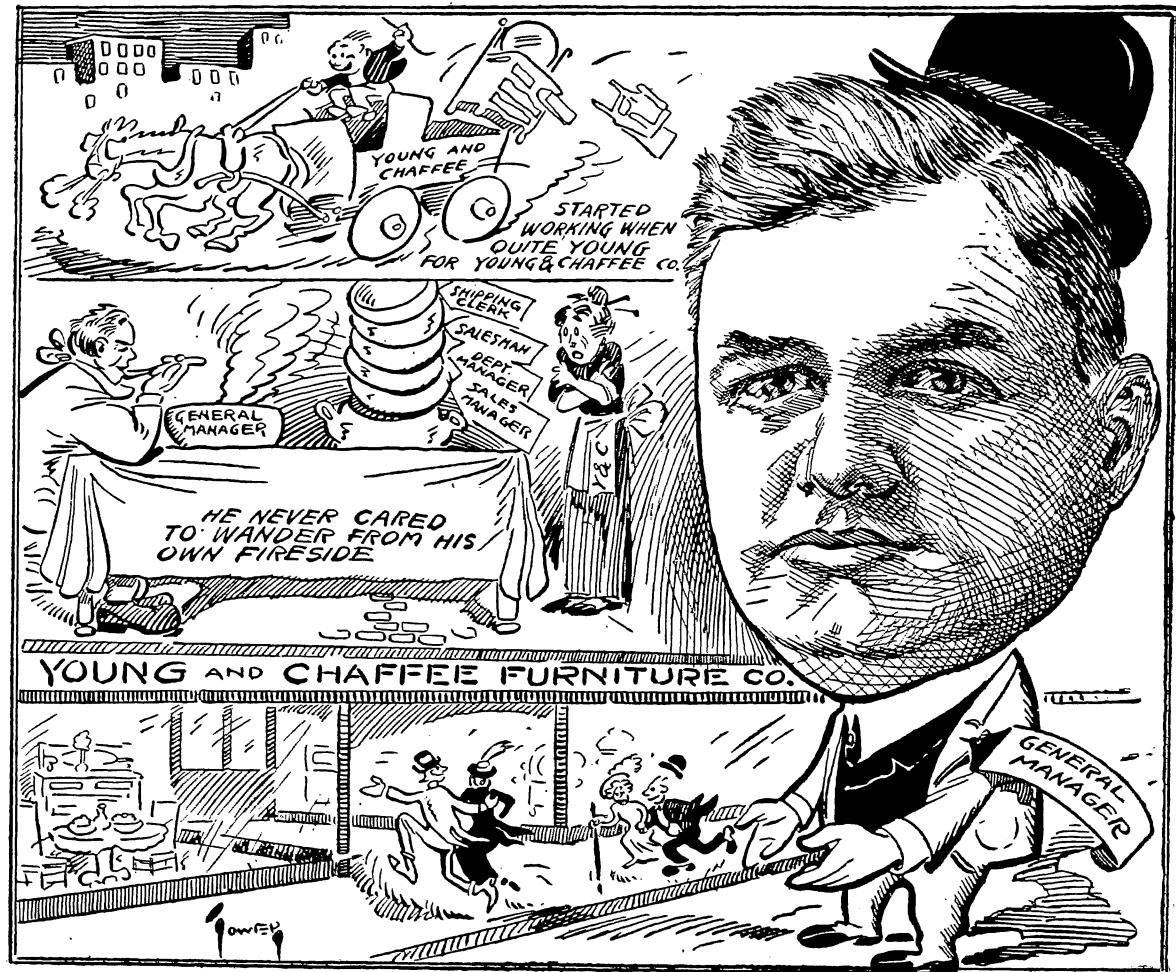


S. George Graves

S. George Graves, general manager of the Young & Chaffee furniture store, is in the front rank of the younger men of Grand Rapids who have rapidly forged ahead in the past ten years. From an obscure position few years back he has risen to the control and management of one of the most progressive house furnishing stores in Michigan.

Mr. Graves was born on a farm near Rockford, Mich., in 1882. His connection with the Young & Chaffee company began in 1898 when he entered their employ as a delivery boy. His natural ability soon obtained for him a promotion to the place of shipping clerk. From that he rose to the position of salesman and next was placed in charge of a department. When he became too good for this he was made sales manager and December 5, 1913, he was given complete charge of the large store.

The high standard management Mr. Graves maintains becomes apparent through a visit to the Young & Chaffee store with its complete and modern stock of furniture. The window displays of the company induce many to take the necessary few steps up Ottawa avenue from Monroe avenue.



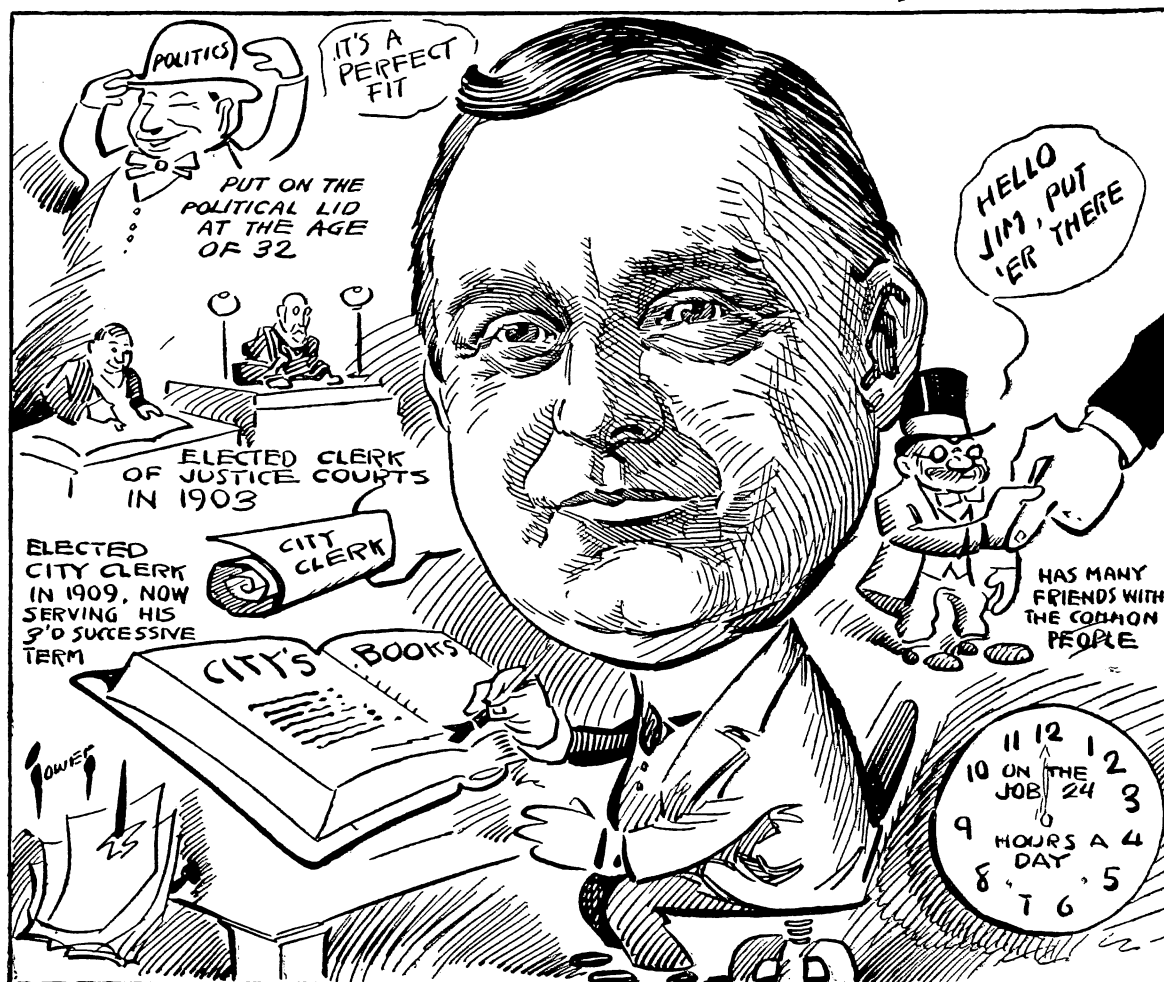
James Schriver

James Schriver, city clerk now serving his third term, faced the necessity of earning his own living early in his career, but by close application to his duties and much burning of midnight oil he has been able to overcome this handicap and managed to fit himself so that he has been able to discharge efficiently the duties of every position he has held.

Mr. Schriver was born in Grand Rapids in 1870 and has lived in this community all his life. His early friendships were among working people and he has chosen to continue these associations in later life despite advancement in position. He always took a close interest in civic affairs and decided to enter politics at 32 years of age. He has progressed steadily since.

In 1903 Mr. Schriver was elected clerk of the justice courts filling the position so satisfactorily he was re-elected in 1905. He ran for city clerk in 1907 and came within 68 votes of winning in a field of four candidates. He was appointed secretary of the board of health shortly after and while in this office installed a book-keeping and loose-leaf system still adequate for the needs of that department.

In 1909 Mr. Schriver received the unanimous endorsement of 72 delegates for the Republican nomination for city clerk and won easily. He was re-elected in 1911 and again in 1913. His parents were born in the Netherlands.

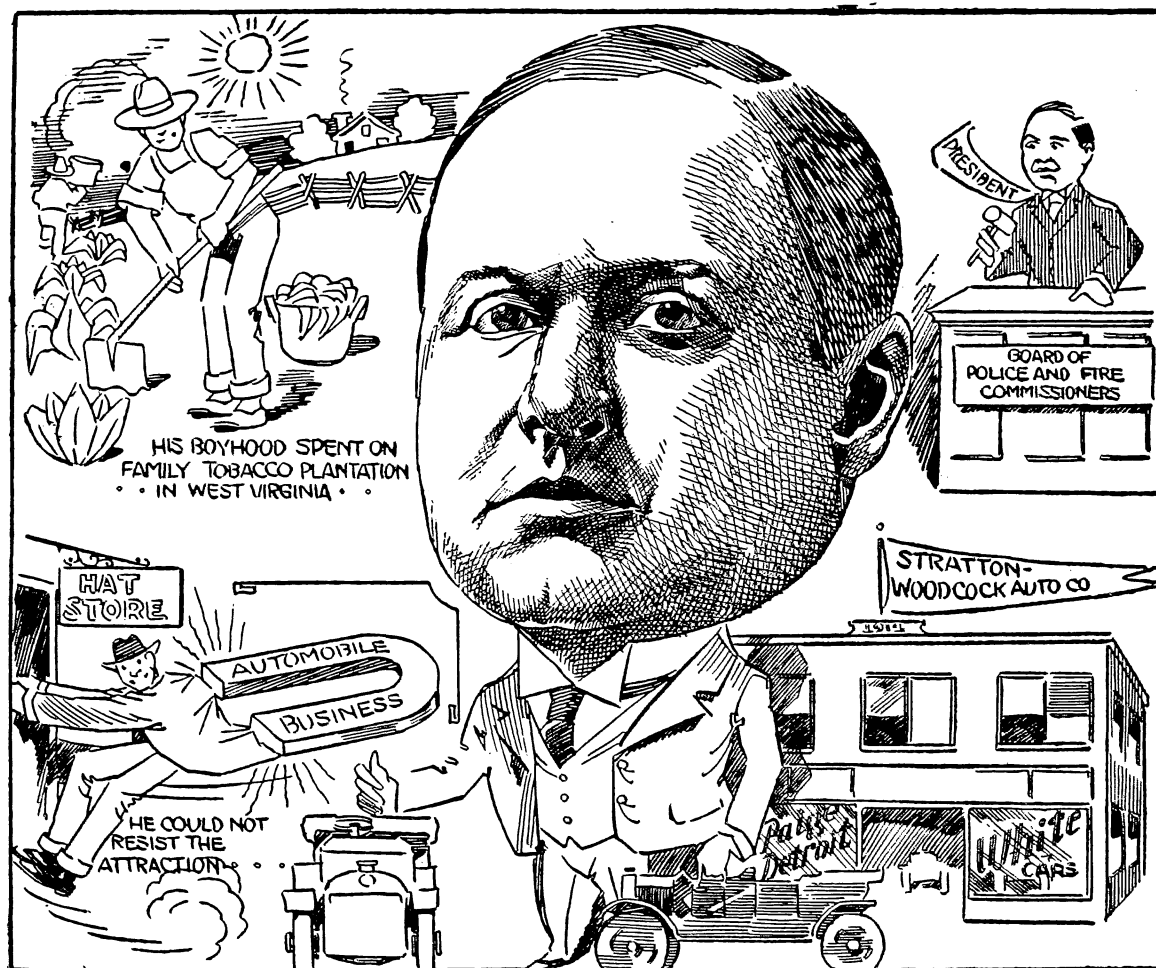


James R. Jackson

James R. Jackson, salesmanager of the Stratton-Woodcock Automobile company was one of the first in the city to become partisan to gasoline automobiles. He purchased his first car in 1902 and, while not connected with the business all the time since then, he has kept in close touch with the wonderful development of motor vehicles.

Mr. Jackson was born on a tobacco plantation in West Virginia on which his parents and grandfather lived. He remained on the plantation until he was 20 years old when he went to Pittsburg where he learned the hat business. After a year and a half there he went to Fort Wayne, Ind., and 15 years ago came to this city. For years he was a well known hatter here but two years ago he yielded to the fascination of the automobile business.

Mr. Jackson was president of the Grand Rapids Automobile club in 1909 and also a member of the tours and contest committee of the Automobile association's national body. He has always been interested in civic affairs and has given the city valuable service as member of the board of police and fire commissioners. He is president of that board and is serving his fifth year on it. The Stratton-Woodcock company, which he represents, is distributor in western Michigan for Paige-Detroit and White cars.

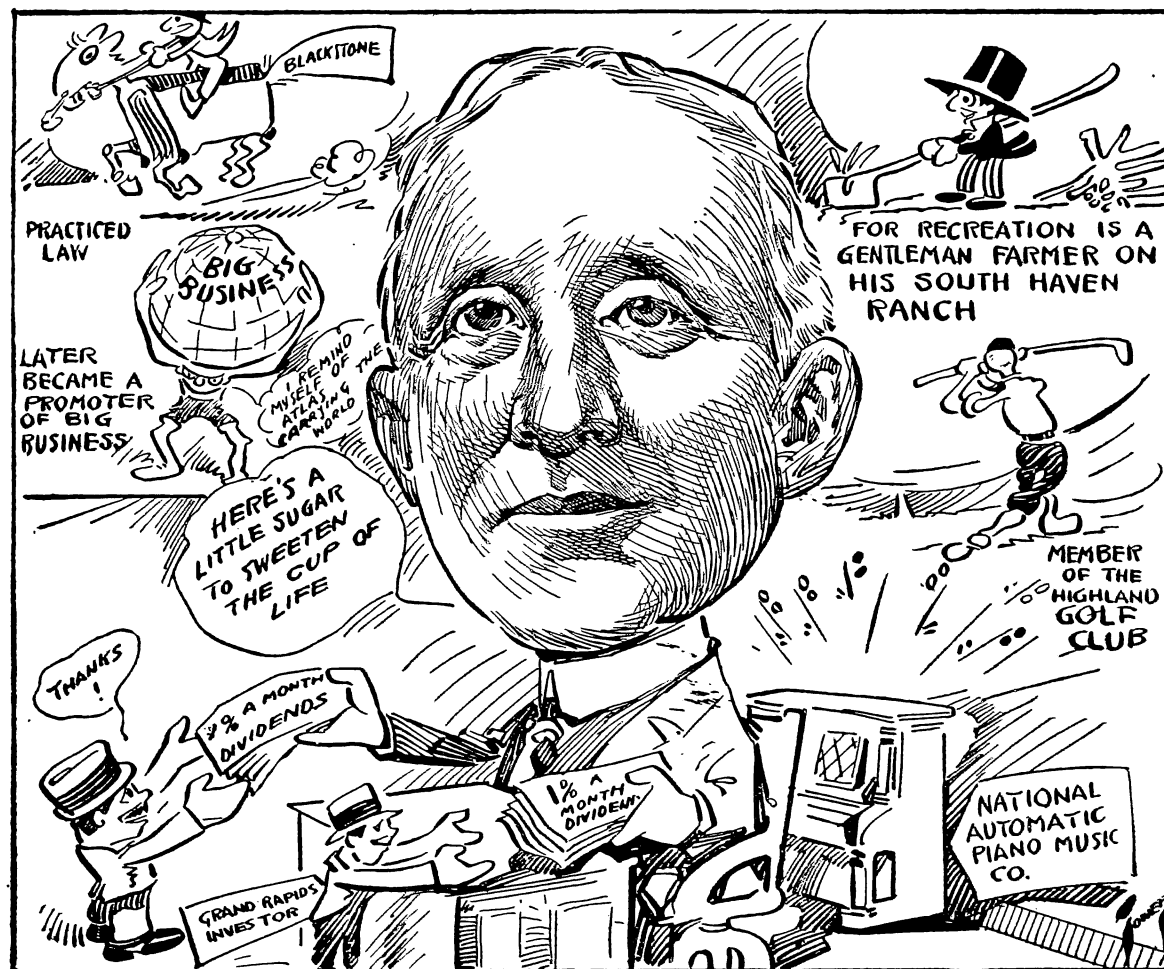


Walter Ioor

Walter Ioor, vice-president and general manager of the National Automatic Piano Music company, says that Grand Rapids will have a \$20,000,000 corporation some day and that the corporation will be the National Automatic Music company. And since that concern has been paying Grand Rapids investors one per cent a month since it was organized his prophesy seems in a fair way to become true.

Mr. Ioor has traveled much and worked at many things in his career. But as a lawyer, salesman or promoter of industrial and other enterprises he has always been alert for the main chance. When he came on the idea on which the National Automatic Piano Music company is based, he recognized its soundness immediately and since then has given it all his time and attention. He interested some of the most substantial men of the community in it and the company is doubling its business annually.

Mr. Ioor was born in Bayou Sara, Louisiana, during the Civil war. In fact a Union gunboat was pumping shells into Bayou Sara the day he was born. His name before his family emigrated from France to Holland was DeJour. Later his family came to America as colonists and his ancestors were prominent in the Revolution. Mr. Ioor's principal interests outside the National Piano Music company are golf and farming.

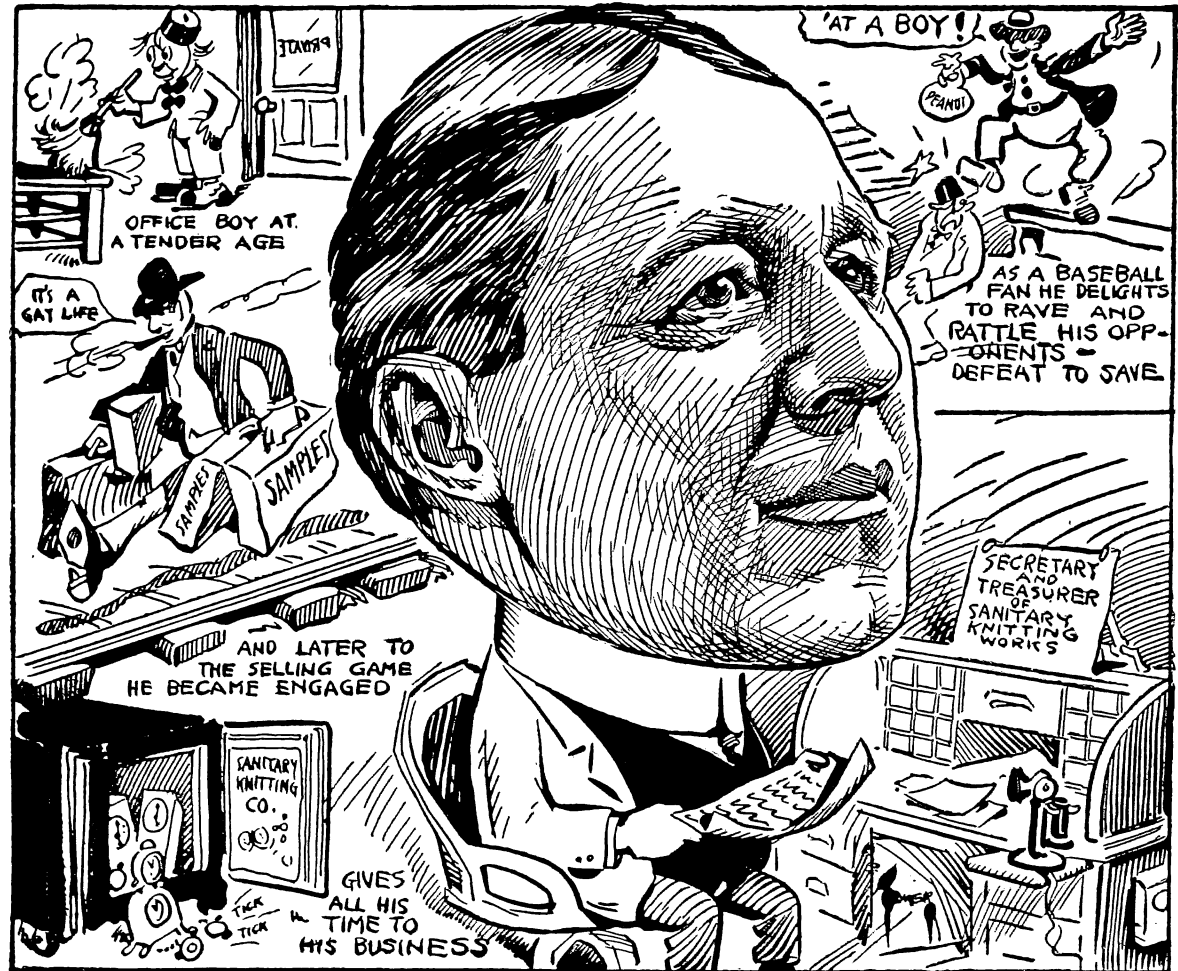


Edward C. Mangold

Edward C. Mangold, secretary and treasurer of the Sanitary Knitting company, has devoted the best of his energy and ability to the knitting business and at present is one of the prominent men in the textile industry of this city which has become one of the textile centers of the country.

Although born in Michigan City, Ind., Mr. Mangold came to this city at such an early age that he has practically been a life long resident of Grand Rapids. He received his education in the schools of the city and later took a course at a business college. After completing this Mr. Mangold entered the business world and gradually worked his way up. He was identified with various enterprises in this city in all of which he held high positions of trust and responsibility.

Since assisting in the organization of the Sanitary Knitting company, Mr. Mangold has given it his entire time. The Sanitary company makes the highest grade underwear manufactured and finds demand for it all over the United States and outside, selling even to Cuba, British Columbia and Europe. Since its first year the company has increased its business six fold, much of the credit for which is due Mr. Mangold who has been secretary and treasurer of the concern since the start.



James F. Knowlton

James F. Knowlton is another of the successful men of the city to whom Grand Rapids has always been home. He was born here and achieved his success here, consequently he is prominent in that class of Grand Rapids men who never miss an opportunity to advance the interests of their city or western Michigan.

Mr. Knowlton received his first education in St. Andrew's school here. Following this he went to Notre Dame at South Bend, Indiana, where he took a high school preparatory course. He has been in the real estate business now for 11 years and although a young man has built up one of the best agencies in town.

The business of the James F. Knowlton agency is general but the volume of work consists in the handling of downtown business places, factory sites, and subdivisions. One of his big additions was West Park which consisted of 80 lots now all built up with medium priced bungalows and cottages. He also handled a 50 acre tract between Madison and Eastern avenues, Cottage Grove and Griggs streets, which was given over to factory sites. The downtown property transfers he has figured in have been many.

For nine years Mr. Knowlton was in the real estate department of the Michigan Trust company, where he learned the business thoroughly. He established an agency for himself two years ago.

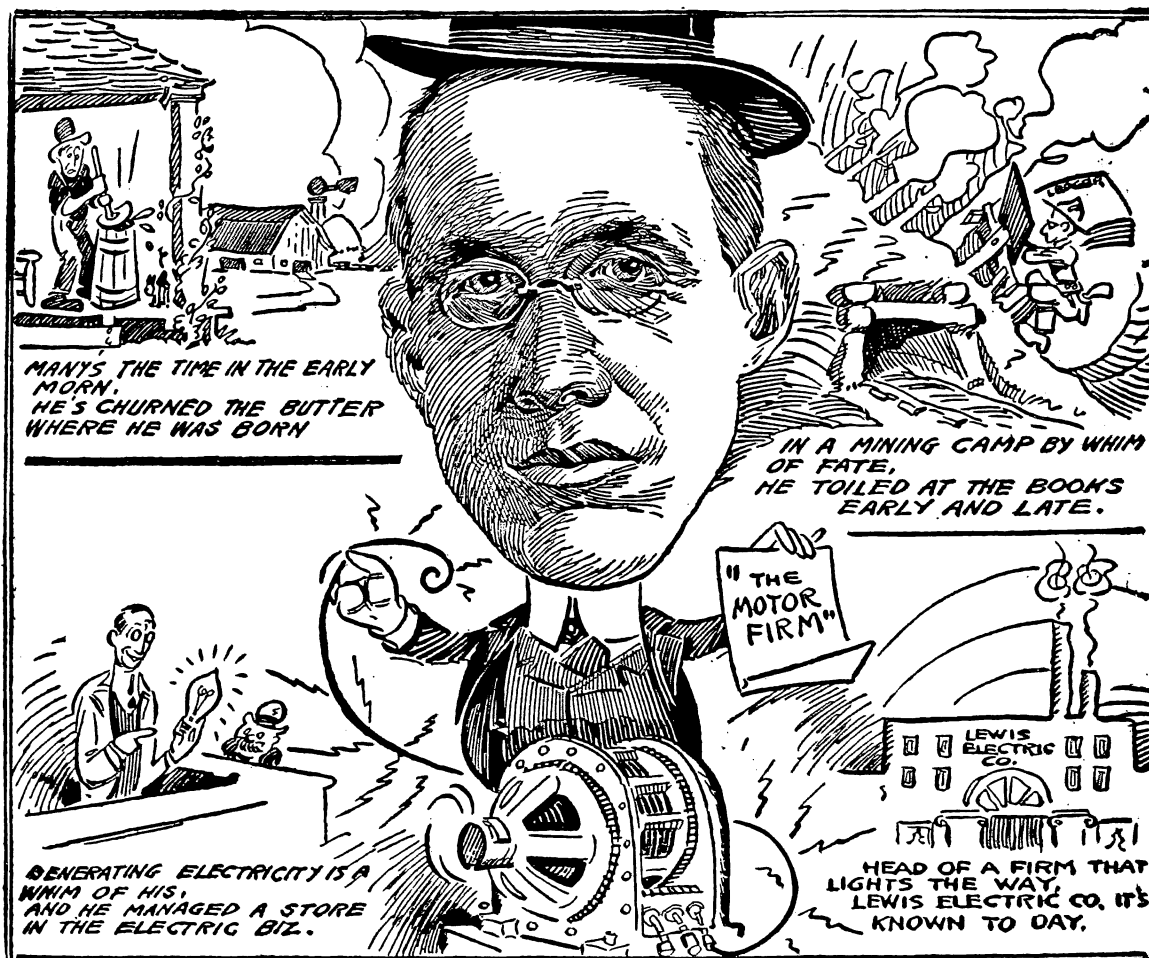


Guy W. Lewis

Guy W. Lewis, executive officer of Lewis Electric company, "The Motor Firm" was born on a farm in Leighton township, Allegan county, May 23, 1870. In boyhood he lived with various relatives on the farm in Michigan, Iowa and Georgia. At the age of 15 he began to wander about the world, working in the lumber camps of the north woods, on railroad construction work in the west, wheeling scrap iron in the foundries of Indiana and on the street railway lines of this city. Several years he attended Hillsdale College but the pecuniary condition of his family, (a widowed mother and two sisters) prevented him from graduating there.

After leaving the employment of the street railway company he attended business college and finishing this course got a job as bookkeeper in a mining camp in northern New York. Later he entered the employ of the M. B. Wheeler Electric company as bookkeeper and eventually became manager for that concern.

In 1906 he organized the Lewis Electric company, now one of the leading electrical firms of the city, who make a specialty of motor sales, wiring and Mazda lamp, and have the largest motor repair shop in western Michigan.

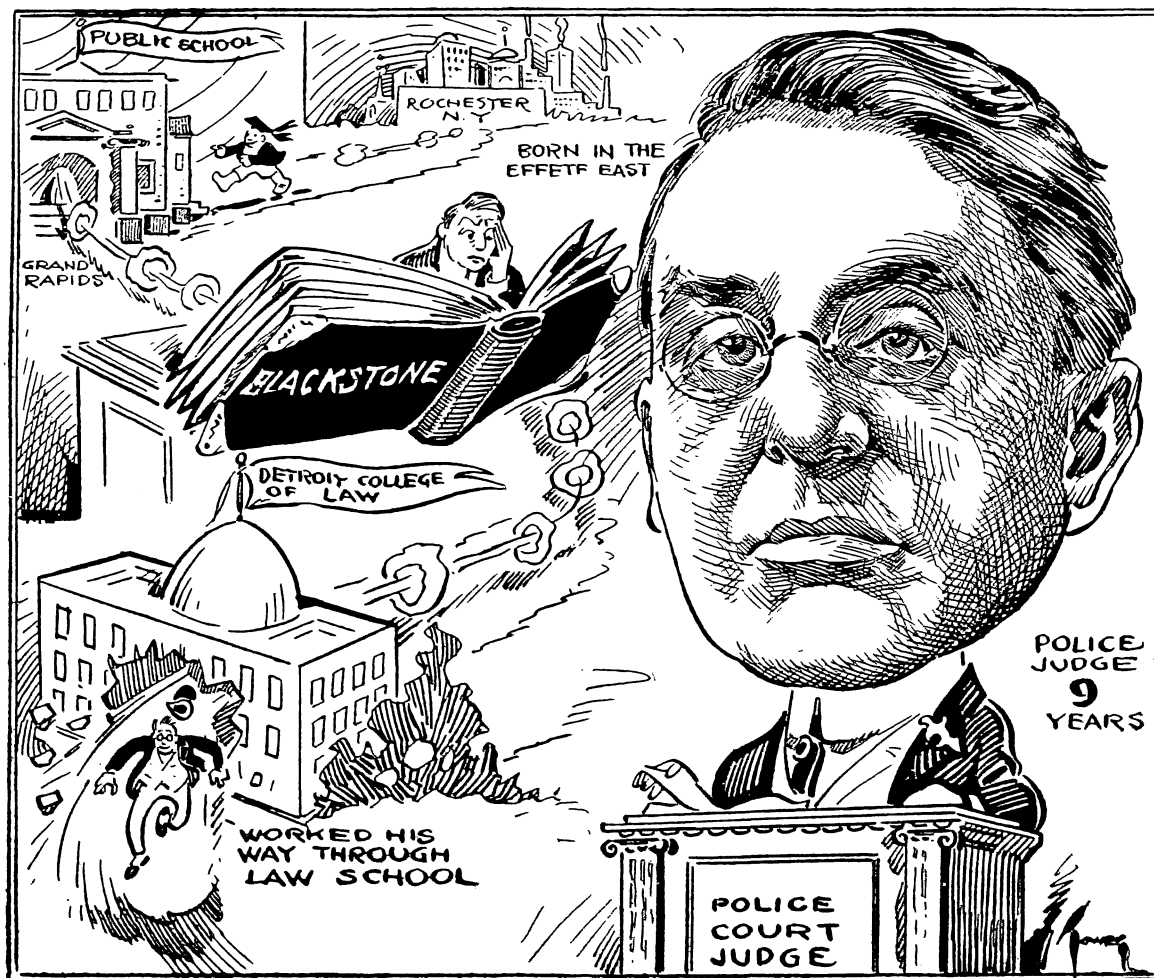


Judge Frank A. Hess

Frank A. Hess, police judge of Grand Rapids is another of the many western Michigan lawyers who obtained their educations through their own efforts. He has been on the bench for nine years, having dealt out justice in approximately 30,000 cases in this time. He was born April 7, 1870 in Rochester, New York.

At the age of three Judge Hess moved to Naples, N. Y. with his parents and was brought by them to Grand Rapids when he was seven years old. He attended public schools here and later business college. Shortly after he decided to study law and entered a local office. From there he went to the Detroit College of Law, working his way through.

After his graduation from that institution in 1899 he returned to Grand Rapids and began private practice. He became police judge on the retirement of Judge Haggerty. He is active in civic betterment movements and Masonry. Although firm where severity is needed, Judge Hess has done much work as a humanitarian and is a strong advocate of the system of treating the "down and outers" as sick men rather than as criminals.

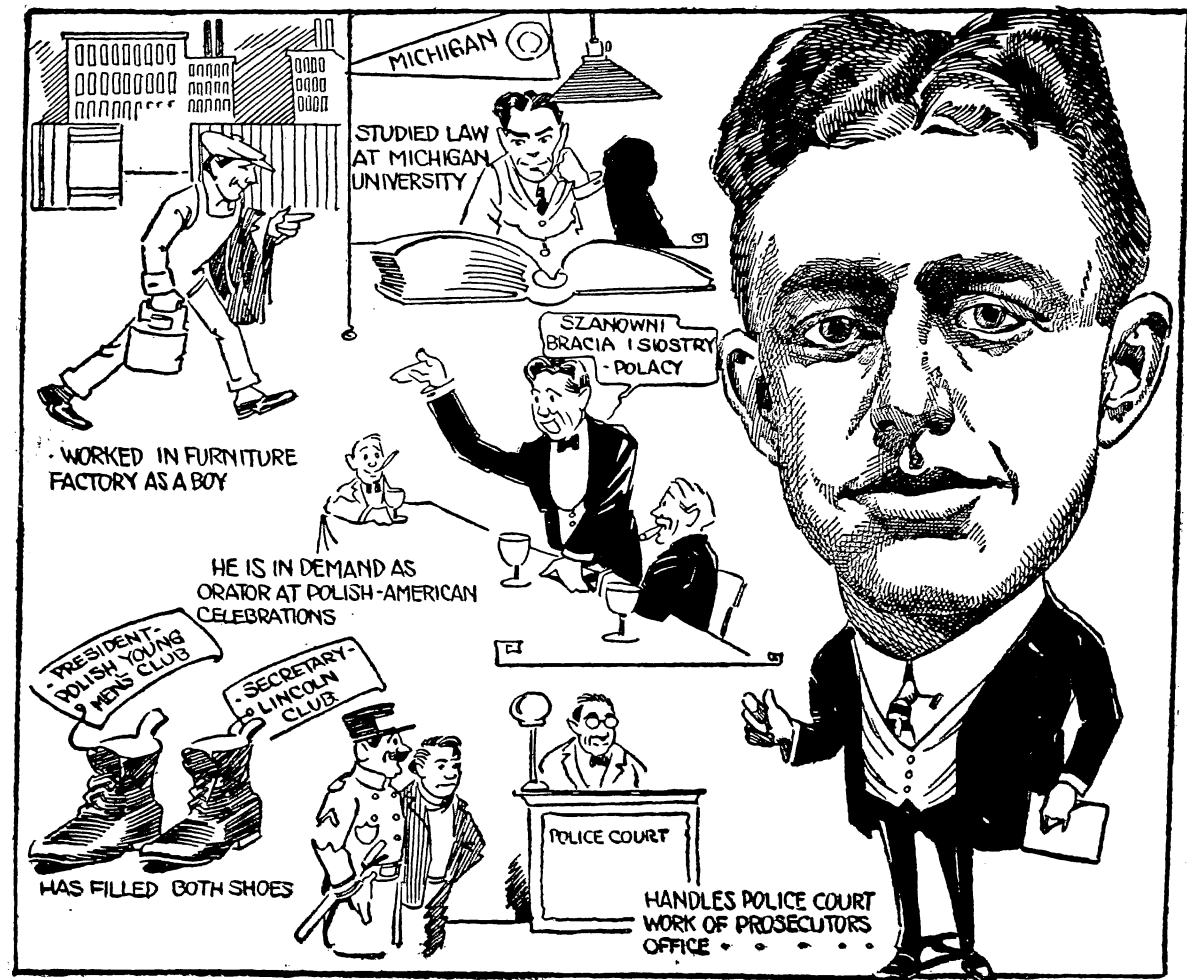


John Smolenski

John J. Smolenski, assistant prosecuting attorney, is one of the most active of the younger Polish-Americans of Grand Rapids. He has charge of the police court work in the prosecutor's office and in this connection is guide, interpreter and counsellor for those of his countrymen who are unfamiliar with the customs of American courts.

Mr. Smolenski was appointed to his place on the prosecutor's staff by Judge Brown before the latter was advanced to the circuit bench. When Prosecutor Phelps succeeded Judge Brown Mr. Smolenski was continued in his position. He is a native of Grand Rapids, having been born here May 18, 1888. He was educated in the public schools and was graduated from the high school here. After graduation he worked in a furniture factory where his father was a foreman. Following this he went to the University of Michigan where he took up the study of law.

As an orator Mr. Smolenski is much in demand at Polish-American occasions. He has been president of the Polish Young Men's club and secretary of the Lincoln Republican club. His knowledge of the ways and language of foreigners make him valuable to the county in the dealing of justice to foreign born people.



Oscar Eckberg

Oscar Eckberg, manager of the West Michigan Cadillac company, is admittedly the most practical automobile agent of many in Grand Rapids, because of the fact that he learned the mechanical side of the automobile business thoroughly before starting to sell cars. Being a trained automobile mechanic has made it possible for Mr. Eckberg to give buyers of his cars the best possible service.

The combination of satisfactory service and a standard car to start with has enabled the West Michigan company formerly the Central Auto company, to make the Cadillac car the most popular medium priced car in Grand Rapids. The large proportion of Cadillacs used in Grand Rapids is always a matter of comment for visitors.

Mr. Eckberg entered the automobile business fifteen years ago. At that time there were less than a half dozen cars, all steam, owned in this city. He organized the Central Auto company in 1909 and has handled Cadillac cars exclusively since. The company was reorganized at the beginning of 1914 as the West Michigan Cadillac company and has a new location on Lagrave avenue, designed to give an ideal Cadillac service.

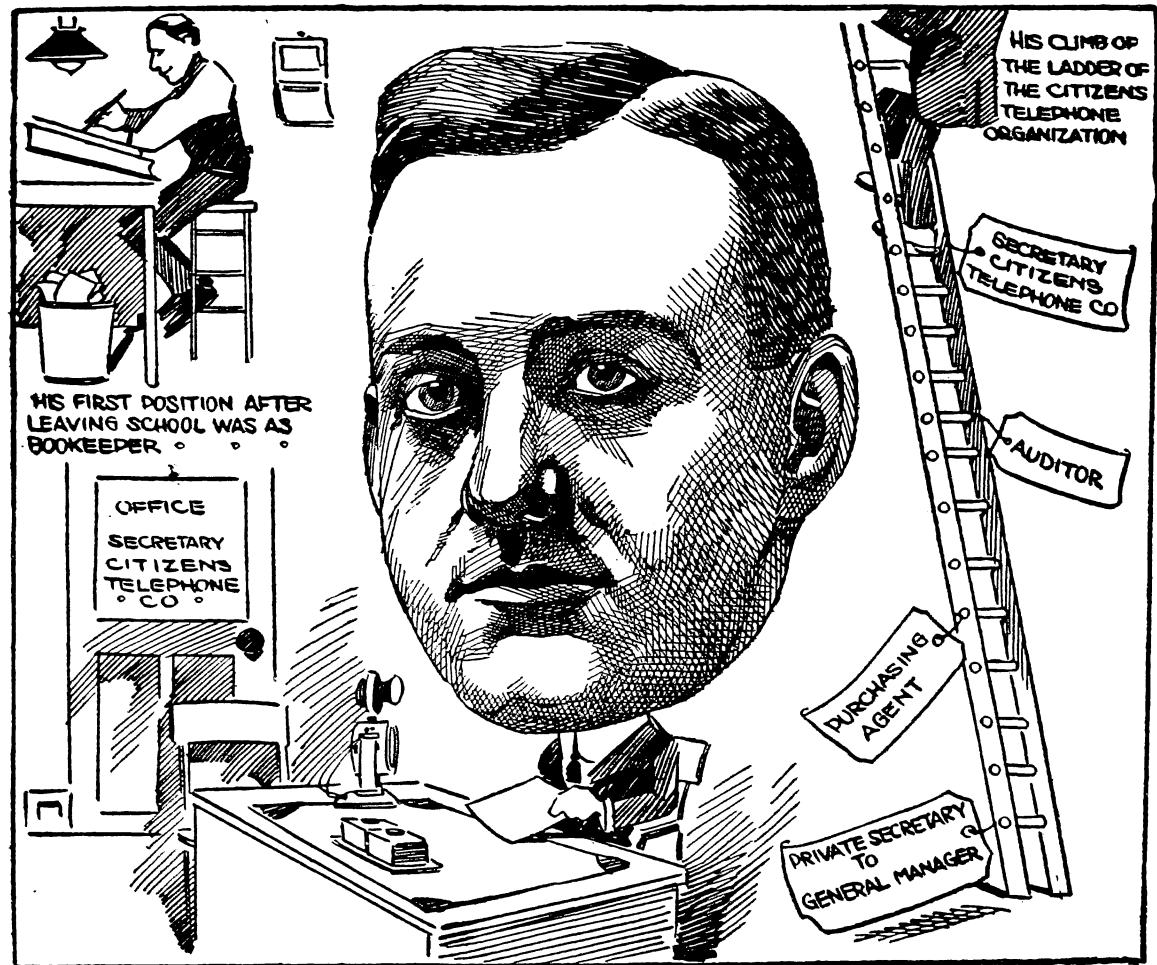


Arthur E. Wells

Arthur E. Wells, secretary of the Citizens Telephone company, became associated with that corporation as a youth ten years ago, climbing to his present position by natural ability and close application to his work. In the decade he has been with the Citizens company he has seen that institution become a public utility indispensable to the life of western Michigan and has played no small part in that growth.

Mr. Wells was born on a farm near Traverse City, Michigan, June 18, 1884. When he was four or five years old he moved with his parents to Traverse City and was educated in the public schools there. He entered a business college after graduating from high school and completing his course obtained a position in the office of a mercantile firm there.

After three months in this connection he left to move to Grand Rapids as private secretary to C. E. Tarte, general manager of the Citizens Telephone company. His advancement since then has been steady. From private secretary he was promoted to purchasing agent. He performed these duties so satisfactorily he was given the position of auditor and at the beginning of 1914 he was made secretary.

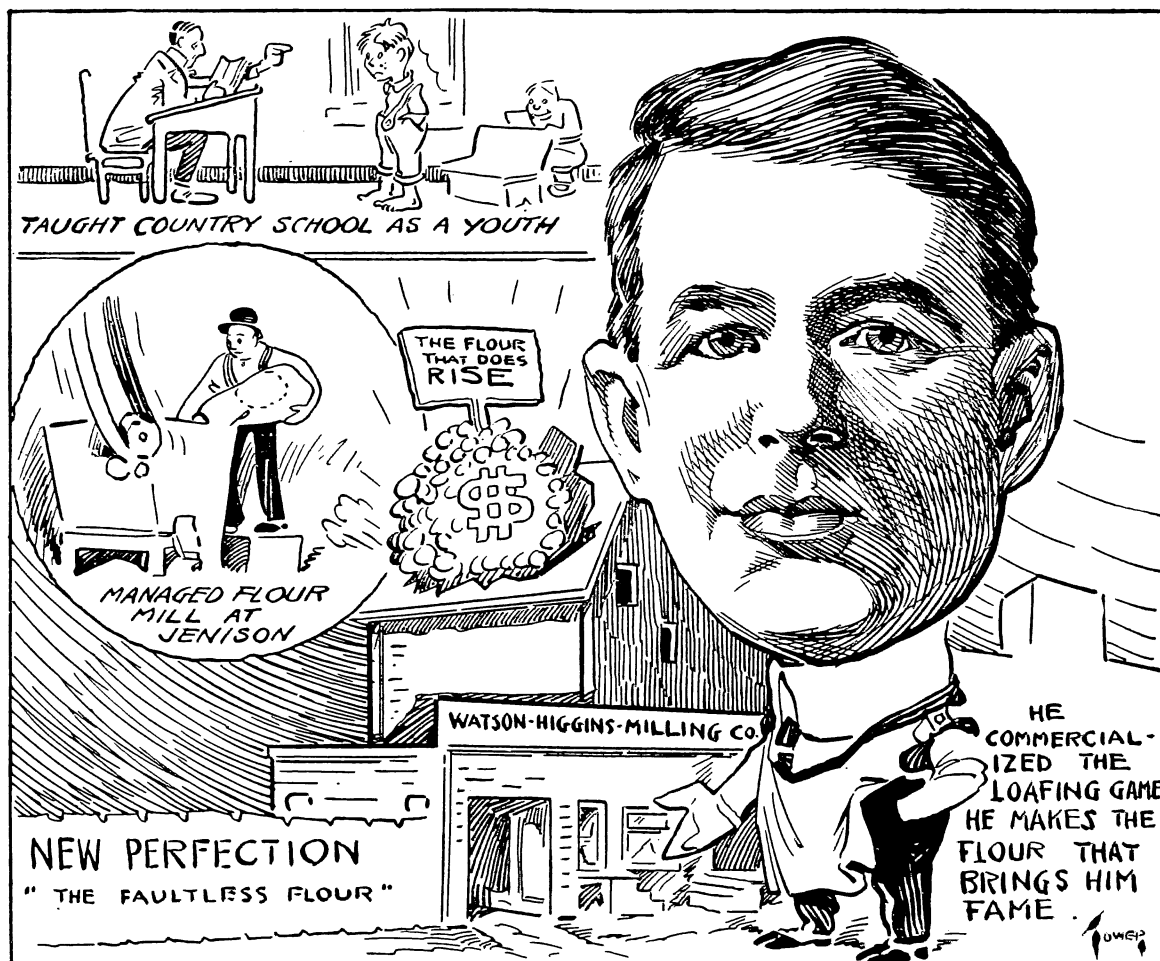


John A. Higgins

John A. Higgins, secretary, treasurer and general manager of the Watson-Higgins Milling company, was born at Nunica, Michigan, July 14, 1876. His first occupation in life was that of a bartender in his father's saloon at Coopersville, Michigan, where the family moved when he was four years old. He was so young when he started this that he had to climb on a chair to reach the glasses when they were on the far edge of the bar.

Because he had to help his father, Mr. Higgins, education was obtained at no little effort on his part but obtained it was and when but a youth he became a country school teacher in Muskegon county. There was bitter opposition to his appointment but he won out probably because, despite his work in a saloon, he never touched liquor or used tobacco or profanity.

He attended business college in this city for a year and a short time after became clerk in a country store owned by the L. & L. Jenison company, at Jenison, Michigan. A few years later he was given charge of the flour mill there, owned by the same company. Nine years ago he came to Grand Rapids and acquired an interest in the flour business of the Watson & Frost company. In January 1912 it was reorganized into the Watson-Higgins Milling company.

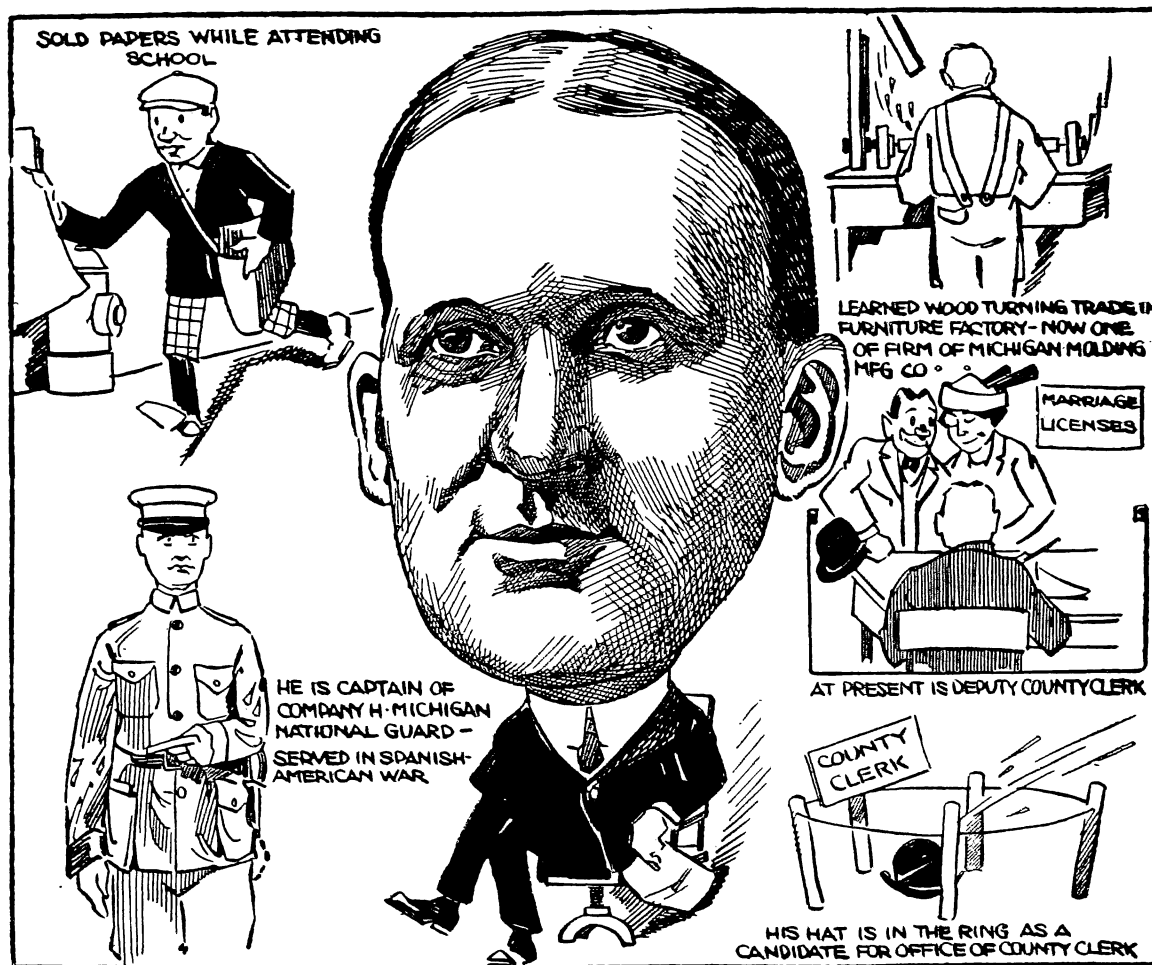


Robert G. Hill

Robert G. Hill, deputy county clerk of Kent county, is also a captain in the Michigan National Guard and has been a soldier since he was old enough to join the ranks and shoulder a musket. He became a member of the Michigan militia at 17 years of age and served through the Spanish-American war. His command, Company H., is admittedly one of the crack companies of the state.

Mr. Hill was born in Woodstock, Canada, in 1875 and came to Grand Rapids at the age of 12 with his parents. He was educated at the Union school graduating from a high school course. His first business experience was as a newsboy. Later he entered a furniture factory and became an expert wood turner. Soon after learning his trade he became a member of the Michigan Moulding Manufacturing company.

Mr. Hill was connected with the city treasurer's office and left there to take a position in the county clerk's office. He has since been advanced to chief deputy. He is one of the most efficient officials in the employ of the county and because of his thoroughly familiarity with the work of the county clerk's office in a logical candidate for that place.



Alex E. Krakowski

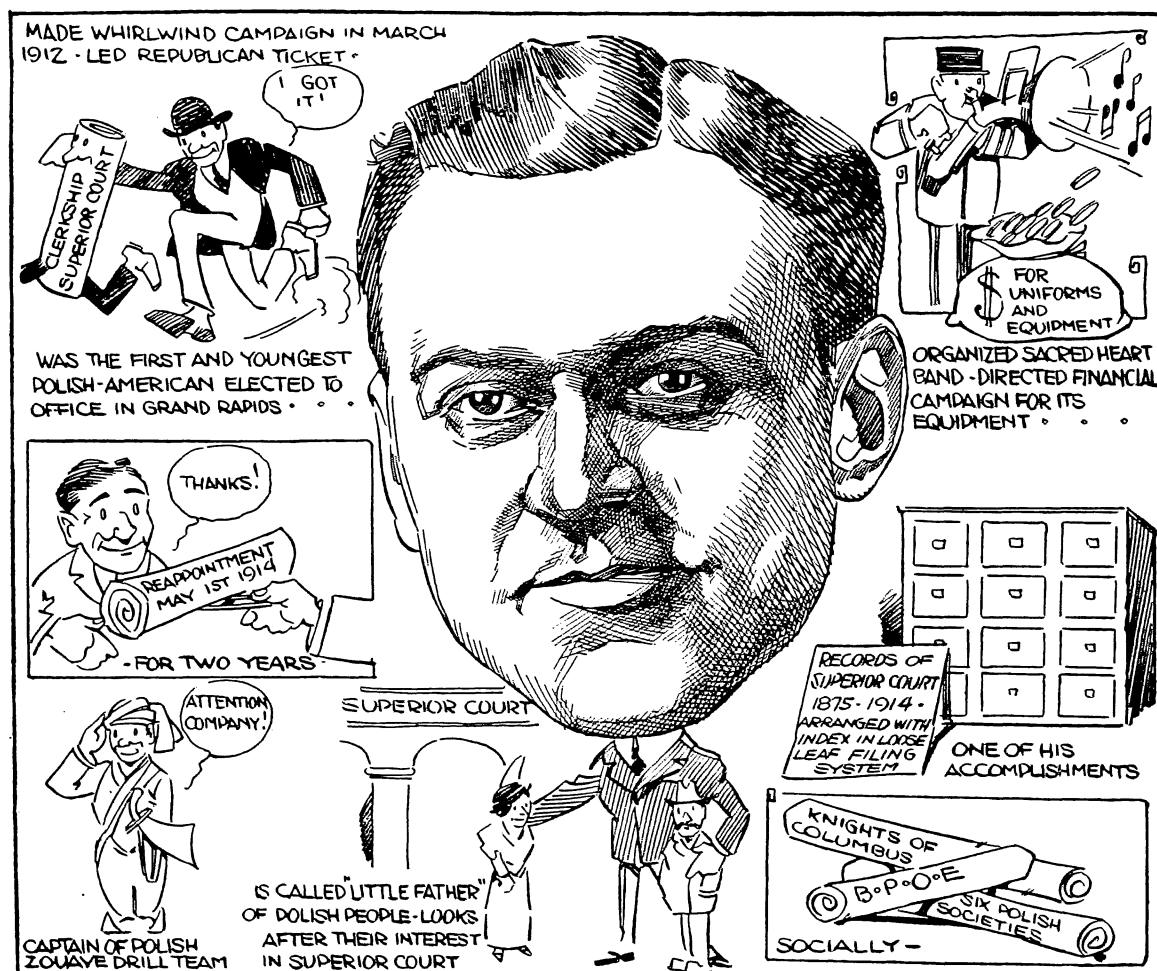
Alex E. Karkowski, clerk of the Superior court has received from attorneys of the city the title "Little Father of the Polish People" because of his untiring efforts in behalf of the Polish-Americans of Grand Rapids.

Born in Chicago, July 8, 1885, Mr. Krakowski was educated in Detroit, St. Francis, Wisconsin and at the Polish Seminary at Orchard Lake, Mich. At 18 he came to Grand Rapids and shortly after became deputy county clerk, a place he held for six years.

In December, 1911, he was appointed to the clerkship of the Superior court and the following March was elected for a two year term after a vigorous campaign. This year he was reappointed for two more years. He is the first and youngest Polish-American elected to office in Grand Rapids. Since he has been clerk of the Superior court he has installed a loose-leaf system and has systematized the records of the court since it was established in 1875.

He was a member of six Polish societies, having organized the Sacred Heart band and directed the campaign that raised \$1,000 for their uniforms and equipment. He captained the Polish Zouaves, a drill team that took second prize in competition here in 1910.

When elected clerk in 1912 he led the Republican city ticket. Much of his work for local Poles is the conducting of naturalization classes for them.



Eugene F. Smith

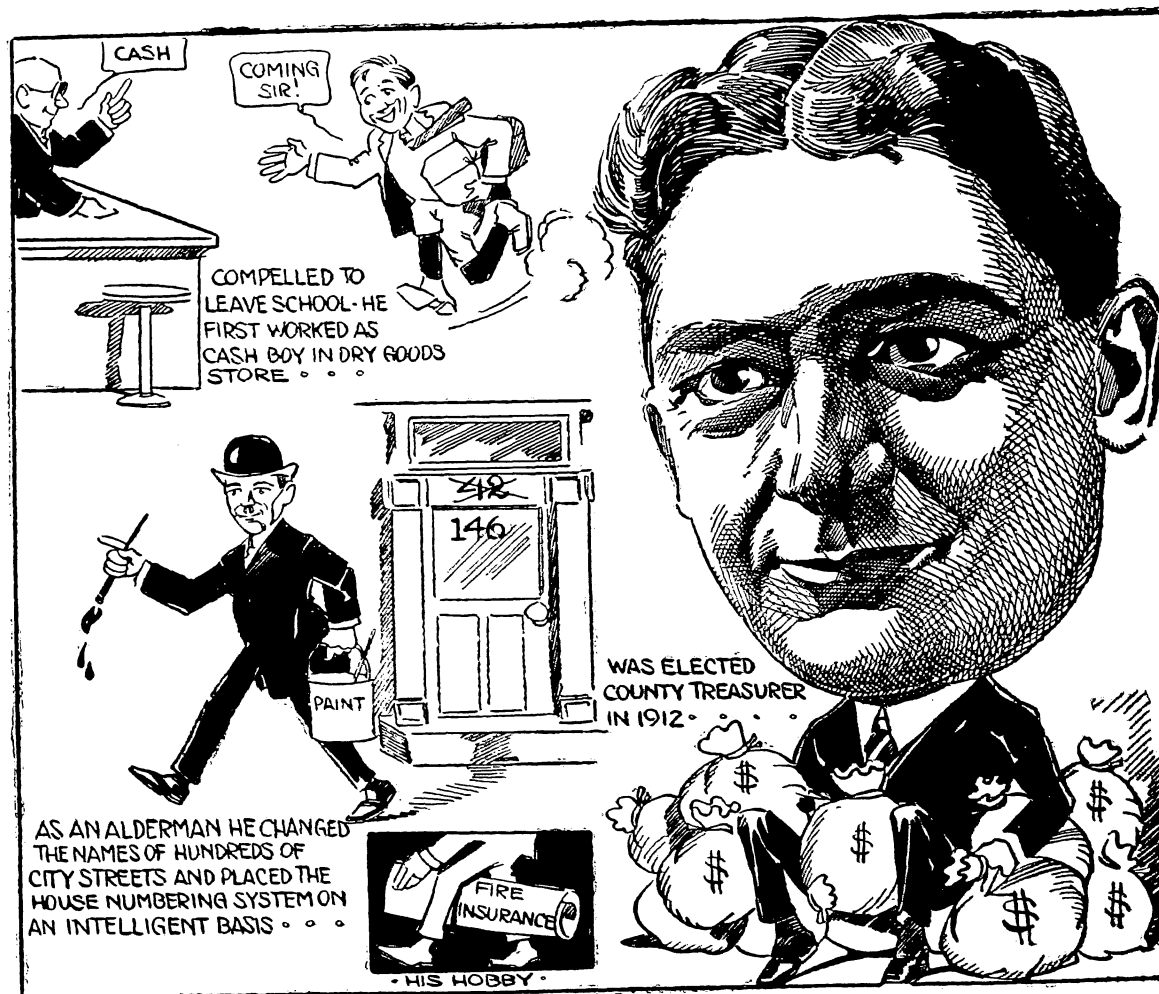
Eugene F. Smith, county treasurer, is a self-made man. He came to Grand Rapids at the age of five years from Ann Arbor, and has lived here since. He was compelled to leave school at an early age and first worked as cash boy in a dry goods store.

His first occupation was that of furniture worker. After several years in a furniture factory he managed to save enough to enter the grocery business in which he was signally successful. He sold out his grocery to embark in fire insurance and is still engaged in this as a side issue.

He was elected alderman from the 4th ward in 1907 and held the position for three consecutive terms. His record as a "city father" is very good and he made many friends among his colleagues and constituents in this office.

His greatest achievement as an alderman was the introduction of a measure which has changed the names of hundreds of streets in Grand Rapids, and placed the numbering system on an intelligent basis. He also helped to buy the net-work of parks and playgrounds which has made the city famous throughout the country.

Mr. Smith was elected county treasurer in 1912 and is still serving his first term.

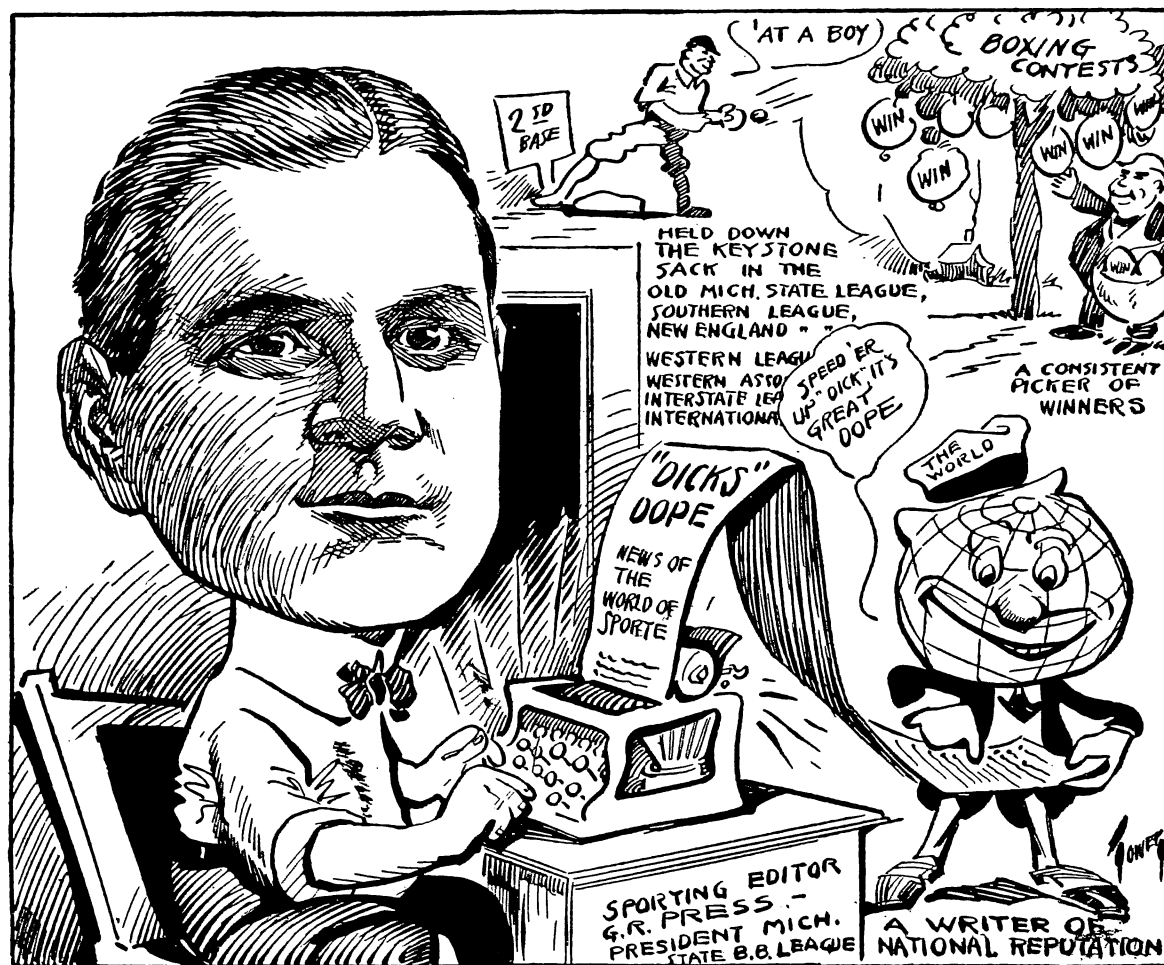


Emerson W. Dickerson

Emerson W. Dickerson, writer for the Grand Rapids Evening Press, was born in Lebanon, Indiana, less than two score years ago. He received part of his education in Kansas City where he was taken by his parents and the remainder in Grand Rapids.

Mr. Dickerson has a national reputation as a baseball and boxing authority. His success as a baseball writer is based on first hand knowledge for he was a ball player for many years. He entered the league baseball in his 16th year. During his career he played in the Interstate League, the International League and the Michigan State League. He has since held the presidencies of all three of these organizations, being president of the Michigan League at present. He is probably the only retired ball player who can boast of having played in and been president of three different leagues.

After leaving the diamond Mr. Dickerson took up writing and joined the staff of the old Morning Democrat, going from that paper to the Press. Mr. Dickerson has the reputation of being the most consistent picker of winners in important pugilistic encounters among the sport writers in the country. He has guessed the results of 117 contests and 116 were right. Mr. Dickerson found time to make a trip around the world some years ago.

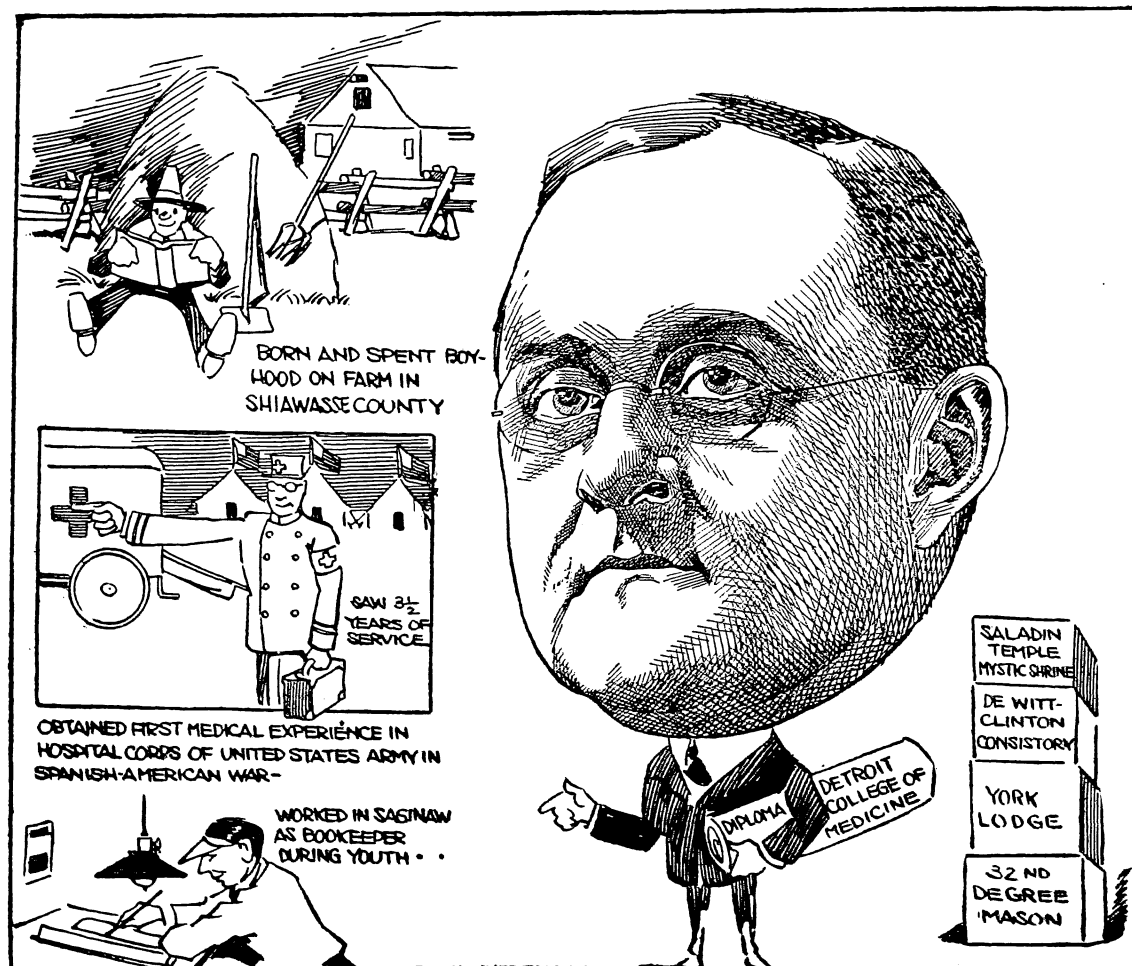


Dr. John F. Burleson

Dr. John F. Burleson, of Drs. Burleson & Burleson, specialists in the Burleson building, obtained his first medical experience in the hospital corps of the United States army during the Spanish-American war. He saw three and a half years of service in Cuba taking care of sick and injured. When he resumed civilian clothes he took up the study of medicine, associating with his brother here and he completed his course.

Dr. Burleson was born on a farm in Shiawassee county, March 18, 1878. When he was 10 years old he went to Saginaw with his parents and attended public schools there. Later he went to Indianapolis and after a course in business college, obtained a position there as bookkeeper. He returned to Saginaw and worked as bookkeeper there till he was 20 years old when he enlisted in the army in July, 1898. In May 1902 he returned to Grand Rapids. He graduated from the Detroit College of Medicine in 1906 and has been practicing here since.

Although he has several hobbies Dr. Burleson hasn't developed them yet. He has been too busy. His principal activity aside from his profession has been Masonry. He is a member of York Lodge No. 410, DeWitt Clinton Consistory and Saladin Temple, Order of the Mystic Shrine.

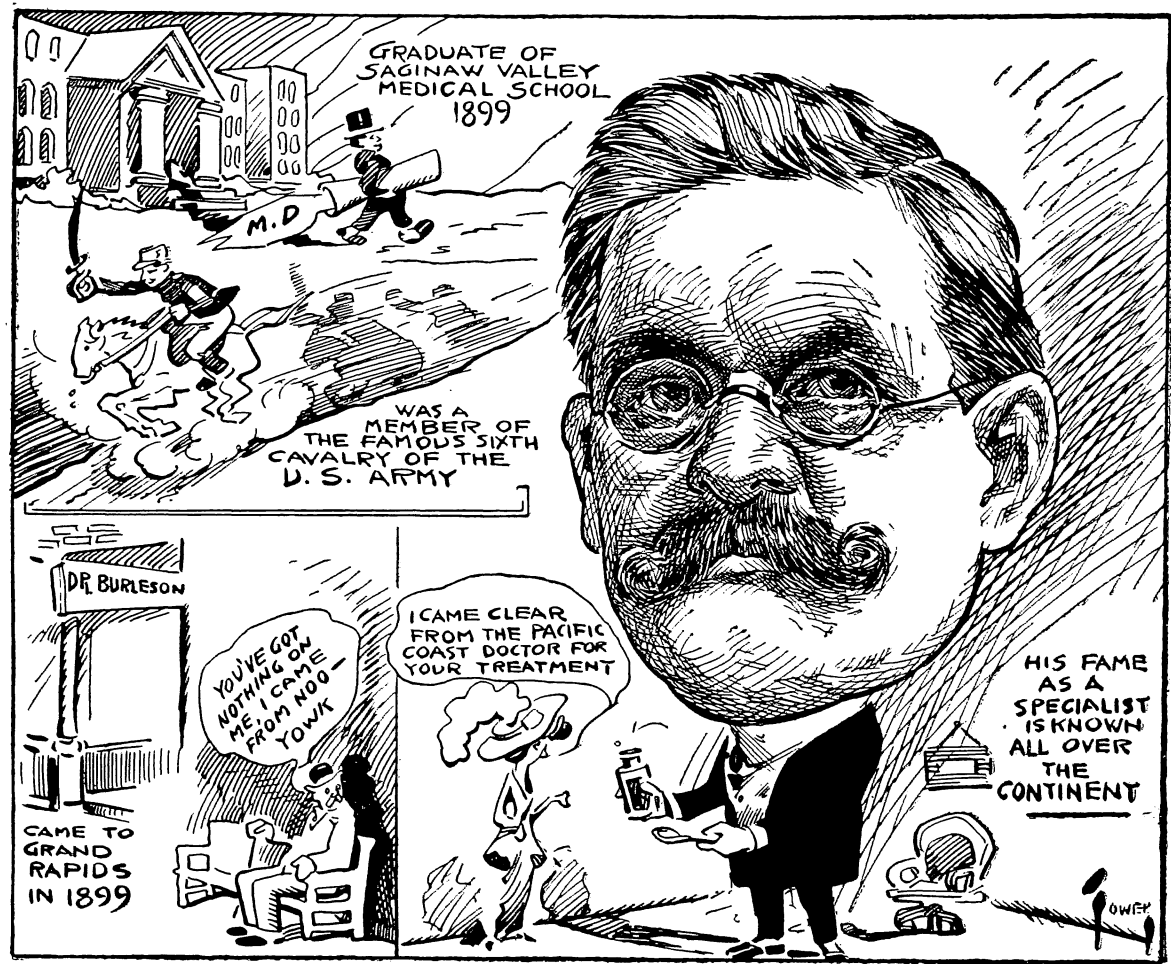


Dr. Willard M. Burleson

Dr. Willard M. Burleson, who has offices in The Burleson apartments, besides being one of the best known practitioners in Grand Rapids, has a reputation as a specialist that extends all over the United States. Sufferers from rectal ailments come here from all parts of the continent for surgical treatment from Drs. Burleson & Burleson.

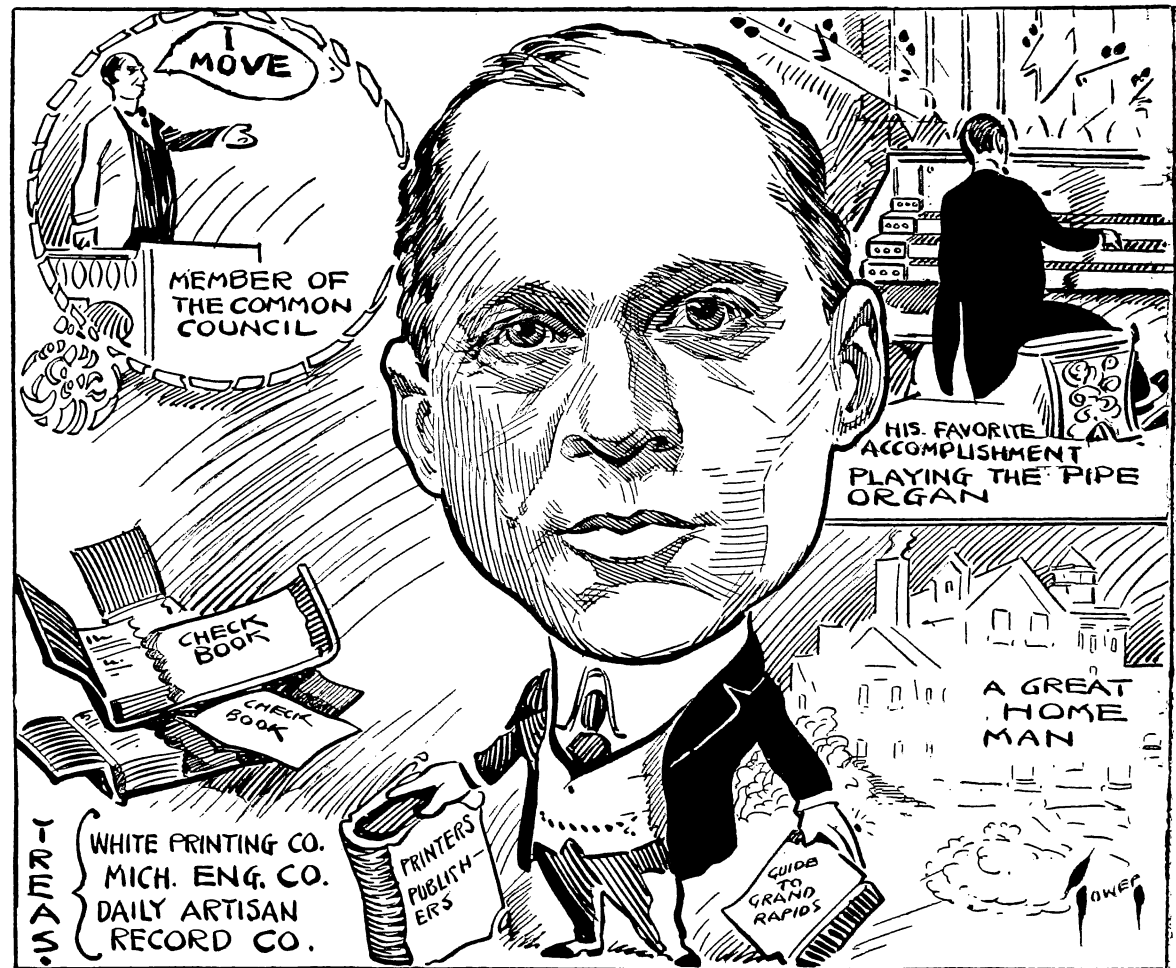
Dr. Burleson was in the cavalry service of the United States army for five years being a member of the famous sixth cavalry. He was born in Saginaw and after attending the public schools there entered the Saginaw Valley Medical school. After graduation he went to Chicago where he took a post graduate course in the branch of surgery he is now devoted to. His studies in Chicago were pursued under authorities in this branch of surgery and when the course was completed Dr. Burleson was given credit for being the best student demonstrator in the class.

South Division avenue was the location Dr. Burleson chose on coming here in 1899. His surgical skill quickly found recognition and he later moved to 103 Monroe avenue for more central and more convenient quarters. Since then he has purchased and moved to The Burleson where he practices with his brother.



Harry C. White

Born in Grand Rapids in 1870, educated in the district school on Baxter street and in his father's printing office, studied bookkeeping, piano and the church organ; married at 19; elected alderman of the Tenth Ward at 29, now serving his fifth term on the council. Treasurer of the White Printing, Michigan Engraving and Daily Artisan-Record Companies. Grandfather at 43.

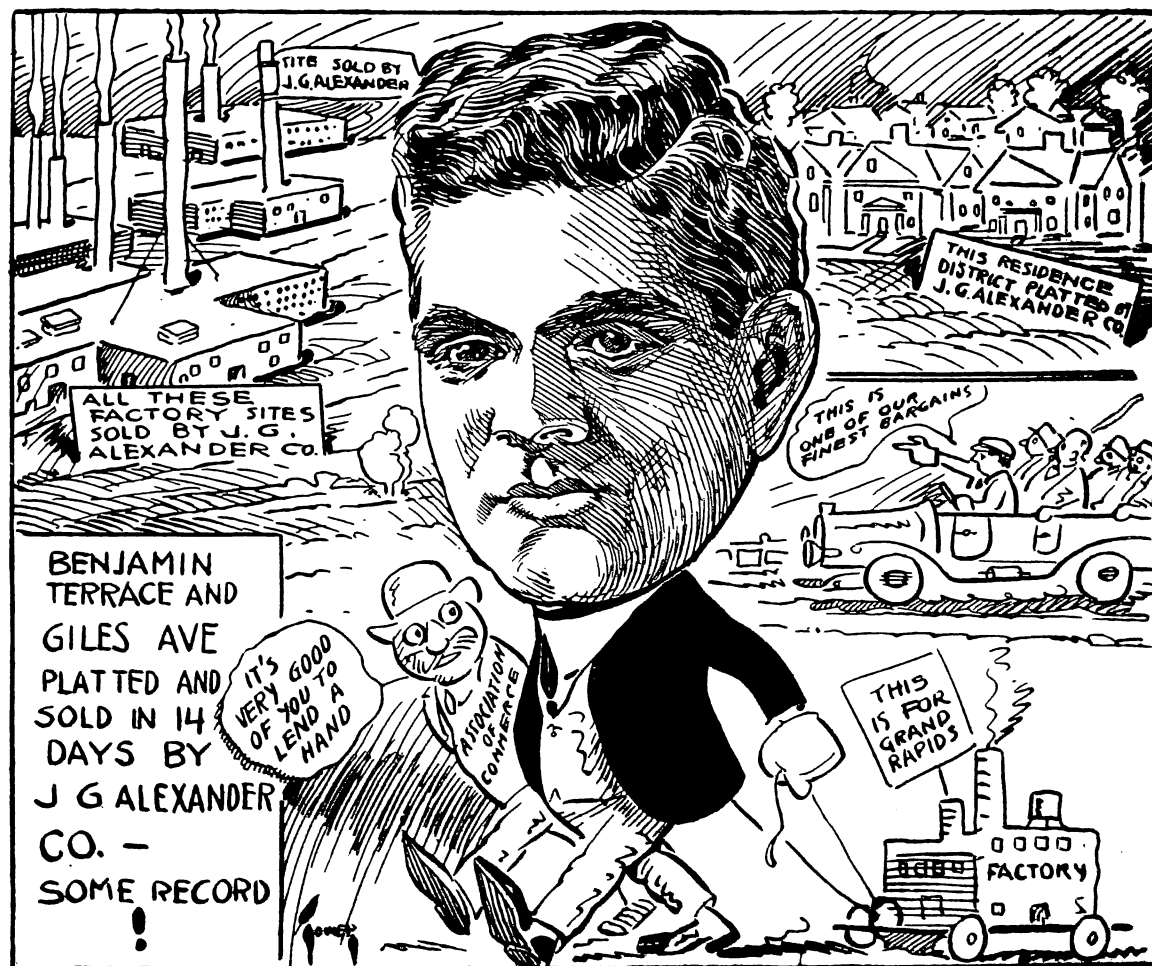


J. G. L. Alexander

J. G. L. Alexander, of the J. G. Alexander & Company, although one of the younger real estate operators of Grand Rapids, has already done much toward the upbuilding of the city and suburbs. The J. G. Alexander & Company does a general real estate business; operates extensively in factory sites and has a large residential business beside handling fire insurance and rentals.

Among the factory sites sold by the J. G. Alexander & Company in recent years are those now occupied by the Kindel Bed company, the Grand Rapids Underwear company, the Covell-Hensen company, the Metal Office Furniture company, the Steel Furniture company, the Battjes Fuel & Building Material company and the Hauser, Owen & Ames company storage plant. The company also platted Benjamin Terrace from Wealthy street to Lake Drive, S. E. which is now built up into one of the best residence streets in the city. Giles avenue is another street opened by the J. G. Alexander & Company and the lots on this plat were sold in 14 days.

The J. G. Alexander & Co. agency was established by J. G. L. Alexander's father 27 years ago. Mr. Alexander graduated from the public and high schools here and attended the Michigan Agricultural College.





WHITE PRINTING COMPANY, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.

